

VOTES FOR WOMEN

EDITED BY FREDERICK AND EMMELINE PETHICK LAWRENCE.

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VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Electors!—Your representatives in the House of Commons, by a majority of 110, voted for our Bill, but Mr. Asquith put his Veto on it. Therefore we call on you to censure Mr. Asquith by voting against the Liberal Candidate.

This is one of the Posters being used at the General Election, and can be obtained in three sizes from the Woman's Press.

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To the brave women who to-day are fighting for freedom, to the noble women who all down the ages kept the flag flying and looked forward to this day without seeing it: to all women all over the world, of whatever race, or creed, or calling, whether they be with us or against us in this fight, we dedicate this paper.

THE OUTLOOK.

To-morrow, polling begins for the General Election. The Liberals are claiming that they stand for the supremacy of the House of Commons. How false this claim is will be seen at once from the record of the Liberal Government with regard to Woman Suffrage. The Conciliation Bill, which would have given votes to women who pay rates and taxes, passed its second reading in the House of Commons on July 12 by a majority of 110, a majority larger than that accorded to the Government's Budget or the Government's Veto Resolutions; but this Bill was prevented from becoming law by the action of the Liberal Government, who

because they disliked the Bill, put their veto upon it by refusing further facilities for the measure. This shows that the Liberal Government only believe in the supremacy of the House of Commons so long as its views coincide with their own; the moment that the will of the House of Commons is different from that of the Government Mr. Asquith and his colleagues impose their veto upon its deliberations.

The Policy of the W.S.P.U.

Realising that the Liberal Government is the obstacle to votes for women, the Women's Social and Political Union are fighting against it in the present election, and they will call upon the electors everywhere to help them in this by securing the defeat of the Liberal candidates at the polls, and in this way showing their contempt for the political duplicity of the Government, which, while it talks about the veto of the House of Lords, is simply imposing its own veto upon the House of Commons. The Women's Social and Political Union are prepared to withdraw their opposition to Liberal candidates on one condition—namely, that they get a definite pledge from the Prime Minister that if in power he will allow the Conciliation Bill to be taken through all its stages during next Session.

The Election Campaign.

The Women's Social and Political Union have lost no time in getting to work in the election. Posters, of which the above cartoon is a facsimile, have been erected on the hoardings, Election addresses, and a special leaflet dealing with the Suffragette Delegations, are

being distributed broadcast, and copies of this paper are finding their way into the hands of electors. Owing to the shortness of the time available the Women's Social and Political Union is devoting special attention to constituencies where the majority at the last election was low, and where, therefore, the chance of defeating the Liberal Candidate is greatest. An account of the preliminary work which had already been done in these special constituencies when we went to press will be found on p. 140 and 141.

How Not to Stop the Agitation.

Severe sentences on women in the police courts and the slandering and brutal handling of men at public meetings form the present policy of the Liberal Government. If Mr. Churchill imagines that this will put a stop to the agitation for Woman Suffrage he is profoundly mistaken. We commend to him the following dialogue in the police court:—

The Magistrate (Sir Albert de Rutzen) to a woman prisoner: These doings must be put a stop to. I sentence you to two months' imprisonment without the option of a fine.

Miss Kathleen Streatfield: That will not stop it. Women who have braved the violent usages of the police, who have faced the hunger strike and forcible feeding in prison, will not be terrorised by long sentences. Men who have dared to stand up for women in the teeth of insult and assault will continue to make their protest, cost what it may.

What the Women have Done.

As our readers will remember, the first deputation of women, headed by Mrs. Pankhurst, Dr. Garrett

Anderson and Mrs. Hertha Ayrton, which went to the House of Commons on Friday, the 18th ult., was entirely peaceful in its character, but it was met, on the instructions of the Home Secretary, by organised violence. Women were beaten about and knocked down, many of them were severely bruised, and many are still laid on their backs as a consequence of the injuries they received. When, therefore, a second deputation was sent on Tuesday, and when similar tactics were employed against them, this time the women did not all act entirely on the defensive. Out of over 300 who took part in the struggle, it was alleged against ten that they had in some way or other assaulted the police. A few policemen's helmets were knocked off, a few policemen who were brutally using women received a blow, but that was all. Some of the papers have spoken of women biting and scratching, and Mr. Churchill, from his position of immunity in the House of Commons, has suggested similar charges. But this allegation is totally false, and not a particle of evidence has ever been brought to substantiate it. Finally, several parties of women went to the residences of different Cabinet Ministers, and carefully selecting the dark windows of rooms in which there were no occupants, broke them with a stone—thus following the precedent set by the reformers in 1832, who took this means of showing their displeasure to the Duke of Wellington, who was blocking the Reform Bill.

Mr. Churchill's Tactics.

The total number of women arrested on Tuesday, November 22, was 150, a further 18 were arrested for obstruction on Wednesday, and a further 21 on Thursday for protesting, by breaking windows, against the attitude of the Government. In the police court the same tactics which had been employed on the previous Saturday were put into operation. Those women who were charged solely with obstruction were discharged; thus no opportunity was given them of stating the facts as they saw them and of showing up the treatment which they received. Sir Albert de Rutzen, the magistrate, clearly expressed his opinion of this method of procedure, saying that it worked great hardship on individuals and declaring that in his opinion it was simply an incentive to violence. Meanwhile the prosecution proceeded with the cases of those women against whom assault and window breaking were alleged. On Thursday morning, varying sentences of 40s. or fourteen days, and £5 or a month were inflicted. On Friday the magistrate imposed even on first offenders sentences of two months without the option of a fine, hoping by these severe sentences to break down the agitation.

Improper Procedure.

Some of those dealt with on Friday had previously come before the magistrate on Wednesday and had been discharged. In dealing with these women Mr. Muskett very improperly made reference to the fact that they had been before the Court before, thus (as Mrs. Marshall's solicitor said) "referring to their acquittals as though they were convictions." Again, the magistrate in sentencing the prisoners spoke of them as "having been several times before him already." Surely this is an entirely wrong way of speaking about people against whom not a tittle of evidence had been produced and who had had no opportunity of stating their own case.

In Prison.

Though the women who have been sent to prison in connection with these charges are not receiving first class treatment, the magnificent fight made last year by hunger-strikers has secured them some difference of treatment from ordinary prisoners. They are not being compelled to wear prison dress, or to eat prison food; though we understand they have the greatest difficulty in obtaining elsewhere proper food to eat. They are allowed to exercise together, and are not forbidden on that occasion to talk. For the whole of the rest of the day, however, they are being kept in solitary confinement, and they are not allowed to receive any visitors or to have any letters during the first fortnight of their imprisonment. Friends may send them in fruit and flowers, however; and, if the promised regulations are being adhered to, also books and other literature not dealing with current events.

A Man's Leg Broken.

While the papers have been trying to make a great deal of the fact that Mr. Birrell in escaping from Suffragettes, slightly twisted his own knee, they have given very little prominence to the assault perpetrated on Mr. Alfred Hawkins at Bradford. Mr. Hawkins was one of the men present at Mr. Churchill's meeting in that town who interjected a remark on the question of Votes for Women. He was at once set upon by Liberal stewards and treated with the utmost brutality. He was flung down the stairs,

several stewards falling on the top of him; as a result his leg was badly fractured in two places and he is now laid up in Bradford infirmary with injuries which the doctor says will take several months for recovery.

A Dastardly Falsehood.

Meanwhile, not content with the disgraceful and brutal behaviour of his stewards, Mr. Churchill saw fit to slander the men who bravely made these protests by falsely insinuating that they were paid for their work. We know no more dastardly and dishonourable tactics than those employed in this matter by Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Winston Churchill; knowing quite well their statements to be devoid of the slightest foundation, they trust to the fact that their words have a wider publicity than the prompt denial of the men concerned.

Reprisal Taken.

It is not in the least surprising that when slanders like this against the character of men and when equally unfounded statements about the women's action are being made by Mr. Winston Churchill, some men should be found to take vigorous measures to show their indignation. As our readers are aware, the case is now proceeding at Bow Street in which Mr. Hugh Arthur Franklin is charged with striking Mr. Winston Churchill with a dog whip. As Mr. Franklin is now remanded for a week and the case is therefore still *sub judice*, we refrain from making any further comments this week except to protest against the refusal of the magistrate to grant bail. There are only two grounds on which bail ought to be refused, the first is that it may be evaded and the prisoner escape, the second is where it seems likely that the prisoner will commit another offence in the meanwhile. Neither of these apply in the present instance. Mr. Franklin is not likely to attempt to escape, he has already answered once to bail, and he may be counted upon to appear again. Secondly, he would be quite willing to give an undertaking not to commit any offence during the interval. This is not the first time that a Liberal Home Secretary has attempted to tamper with the provisions with regard to bail. A precisely similar action was adopted by Mr. Herbert Gladstone in the case of Selina Martin and Leslie Hall last year. Such perversion of the ordinary rules of procedure carried out in the interests of a political party amounts to a very grave scandal.

Other Questions at Meetings.

The protest made by Mr. Hawkins and his stalwart friends at Bradford does not stand alone. Wherever Cabinet Ministers have been speaking the "Voice" of the Suffragist has been heard, asking why the Government are not prepared to deal honestly with Woman Suffrage. At Hull, where Mr. Asquith was speaking on Friday last, he found among his audience both women and men who would not let his "fine words" about liberty and democracy pass unchallenged. At Manchester, Mr. Winston Churchill, after making an inaccurate reference to Mr. Birrell's accident, found himself confronted by men and women who denounced his attitude to Woman Suffrage. At St. Pancras Baths, last week, Mr. Lloyd George was interrupted by a woman, who, failing to gain admittance to the hall, made her protest from the roof and lowered a Votes for Women flag to explain her object. At Wandsworth, Mr. John Burns was constantly reminded by both men and women of his false line of action. He did not hesitate to egg on the stewards to employ violence, saying "that's right, throw him out," and adding, "this ceremony would be incomplete without a little ambulance practice." On Monday, Mr. Winston Churchill, speaking at the Lambeth Baths, found himself confronted by a very large number of men, members of the Men's Political Union. When stewards set upon the first man who interjected a remark, a vigorous protest was made, and the whole number were only ejected after considerable disturbance.

The Meaning of Protests at Meetings.

At this last meeting Mr. Churchill delivered a little homily on the wickedness of interrupting speakers, which we print in full elsewhere on page 149. It is distinctly unfortunate for Mr. Churchill that at the very time when he was giving this sermon his own followers were ruthlessly interrupting Lord Milner at Bow and Bromley and other Unionist speakers elsewhere. Not only so, but their action was loudly applauded by Mr. Churchill's own Liberal press next morning. Among others, the *Daily Chronicle* said:—

"The Voice" has not yet been silenced and the peers suffered from appropriate heckling. Lord Milner is just about the last person who should be chosen to address a meeting of London Radicals—for that is what the meeting last night practically amounted to. They heard his lordship, but they punctuated his remarks with a continuous series of interruptions, and the "Voice" was never in better form.

Lord Milner was met when he rose with cries of "Damn the consequences," and "Three cheers for the Chinese," and proceeded to give with evident glee details of other interruptions at great length. Well may *The Morning Post* remark,—

If Liberals feel aggrieved at the Suffragette tactics they have only themselves to blame. They have set the example of breaking up meetings and refusing a hearing to opponents, and they cannot complain if their own weapons are turned against them.

The fact is, however, that it is only Suffragist interruptions that Liberals cannot stand. Speaking at St. Pancras last week Mr. Lloyd George said of a Tory interrupter: "Let him remain. I like interruptions; they show that people holding different opinions to mine are present, giving me a chance to convert them." Suffragist interrupters, however, are invariably ejected for the simple reason that Liberal Ministers know that there is no answer possible to their question.

Ridiculous Precautions.

While the Suffrage "Voice" is thus constantly getting in wherever a Cabinet Minister goes, the most ridiculous and

futile precautions are being taken to keep women away from every place visited by a Cabinet Minister. Thus we read in *The Times* of Wednesday:—

Elaborate precautions are being taken to prevent Suffragist disturbances during the visit of Mr. Churchill to Sheffield. Two hundred policemen will be on duty to guard him. Persons going to the meeting can only pass along one road, all the other roads being closed to the public by proclamation of the Lord Mayor.

Perhaps the most preposterous precaution of all is the police protection which is being accorded to Mr. Churchill's baby, which is never allowed out of doors unaccompanied by detectives. Of course everyone knows that the Suffragettes wage no war on women and children, and that Mr. Churchill's baby would be as safe in the presence of a score of Suffragettes as she is in her own home.

"ULSTER WILL FIGHT."

If there are any people left who condemn women for taking vigorous action to win their liberty, we commend to them the decision of the Ulstermen to take forcible measures in the event of Home Rule being accorded to Ireland. The old cry of "Ulster will fight" is being raised again, and according to the Press the society of which Lord Londonderry is President is raising a sum of £10,000 to purchase arms if required!

TO ONE IN PRISON.

Dear! on Love's altar thou hast laid thee down,
Priestess and Victim of such Sacrifice
As might melt praise from very hearts of ice,
But wins the scoff of sycophant and clown.
Yet in that Band, whose glory is the frown
Of sceptred tyranny and stained device,
Thou hast a place, and thee it shall suffice
To tread with them the path to high Renown.
And I—even I, unworthy though I be—
For these my wounds of utter loneliness,
Tired head and sleepless eyes, some part would claim
In the deep rubric of thy Mystery;
So may I, in proud years that rise to bless,
Stand in the shadow of thine honoured name.

Dublin.

JAMES H. COUSINS.

HOW MEN WON THE VOTE.

"How on earth you women can think you are furthering your cause by such disorderly conduct, I, for my part, absolutely cannot understand." So said the magistrate in the course of the proceedings at Bow Street last Friday. If Sir Albert de Rutzen spoke as a man, not merely as a magistrate, he must be singularly ignorant of the history of those agitations which led to the enfranchisement of men. We refer him to Lord Morley, who, in his life of W. E. Gladstone, refers to the fact that the Household Suffrage Bill in 1867 was carried as the result of riots in Hyde Park. "It is worthy of remark," he goes on, "that not one of the main changes of that age was carried in Parliament without severe agitation out of doors. Catholic Emancipation was won by O'Connell; the Reform Act of 1832 by the political unions; the Household Suffrage followed the same rule." In 1831, when a Reform Bill was rejected in Parliament, there were riots all over the country, resulting in wholesale destruction of property and loss of life. In Bristol itself, £100,000 worth of property was destroyed in six hours, and two sides of Queen Square were burnt to the ground. In 1832 the Reform Bill was carried, and the explicit reason given by the Government was that unless this Act was made, it would be impossible to keep order in the country. Women who, like men in former times, have been forced into militancy, have shown marked self-restraint and extreme moderation. Their methods are mild indeed compared with the methods which have been adopted so successfully by men.

W.S.P.U. ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Among the more important General Election meetings being held by the W.S.P.U. are the following:—Mrs. Pethick Lawrence will speak at Reading to-day (Friday) December 2, and Mr. F. W. Pethick Lawrence at Birkhead; Miss Christabel Pankhurst will speak at the Skating Rink, Archway Tavern, Holloway-road, to-morrow (Saturday), at 3 p.m., and at the Tolmer's Institute, Drummond Street, Euston, at 8 p.m.; at the Institute, Priory-grove, South Lambeth, on Monday, December 5, at 8 p.m.; and at Glasgow on Thursday, December 8.

Welcome Breakfast.

The women (see page 143) sentenced at Bow-street on Friday last to 14 days' imprisonment will be released on Wednesday, December 7, and will be welcomed at a special breakfast at the Criterion Restaurant at 9 a.m. Tickets, 2s. 6d. each, can be obtained from Miss Cooke, ticket secretary, W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn. Please apply at once as the accommodation is limited.

London Free Meetings.

Visitors and residents in London interested in the woman's movement, and wanting to hear the truth about the recent deputations, can always be sure of having an opportunity of gaining first-hand information at the Queen's Hall, Langham-place, on Monday afternoons, at 3 o'clock. Next Monday Mrs. Pankhurst, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, and Miss Christabel Pankhurst will speak. They will also speak at the next Thursday evening meeting (December 8th) at the Memorial Hall, Farringdon-street, E.C., at 8 o'clock. The hall can easily be reached by Tube, train, or omnibus. The nearest stations on the Underground Railway are Farringdon-street and Blackfriars; on the Central London Tube, Chancery-lane. Omnibuses from Holborn or Fleet-street pass within a few doors.

The Woman's Press, 156, Charing Cross Road, W.C.

Three new pamphlets are now on sale. "The Sword and the Spirit" by Israel Zangwill; "Women's Votes and Wages" by F. W. Pethick Lawrence; "For Freedom's Cause: An Appeal to Working Men," by Ronald H. Kidd; and "The Suffragette Deputation" (No. 75). "Plain Facts about the Suffragette Deputation." Pamphlets are 1d. each; the leaflet is 9d. per 100, 6s. per 1,000, post free.

The Christmas Bazaar is open from 10 to 7 daily; 10 to 2 on Saturdays.

Southport Exhibition.

Owing to the General Election, which requires the time and energy of every member, it has been decided to postpone the Southport Exhibition until after Christmas.

W.S.P.U. ELECTION ADDRESS.

ELECTORS OF GREAT BRITAIN!

There is before you a Constitutional issue greater than any which has been before you in the lifetime of the present generation. You are called upon to decide whether the people of this country, women as well as men—the whole people, and not one privileged sex only—shall have the Vote. You are also called upon to decide whether your elected representatives in the House of Commons are to be free to carry out the people's will, unfettered by the **autocratic and irresponsible veto of the Prime Minister and his Cabinet.**

If you believe in political justice for those women who can show the same claim to the Vote as a man elector can show, and if you believe that the House of Commons ought to be free to do the people's will, then vote against the Liberal Government at this Election. For the Liberal Government will not give votes to women, and will not give freedom of action to the House of Commons.

Ever since they came into power in 1906 the Government have opposed our demand that women who pay rates and taxes shall have the Vote. Following the brave example of their forefathers, women have rebelled against being thus robbed of their rights as British citizens. The Government, throwing aside the Liberal maxim, "Reform, not Repression," have used **methods of coercion** to crush the women's rebellion, and since the Government came into power nearly 700 women have been sent to prison.

The Veto of the Government.

Certain Members of Parliament of all political parties, Liberals, Unionists, Irish and Labour Members, believing that this struggle between the women and the Government ought to be brought to an end, formed a Conciliation Committee in order to get the Votes for Women question settled. This Committee introduced a Bill to give Votes to women householders, these being the women who already have the Municipal Vote. This Bill would enfranchise about one million women, as compared with the seven and a-half million men electors. Over 80 per cent. of these new voters would be working women. The Bill is therefore both moderate and democratic.

That the Bill is democratic in spite of what some members of the Government have said, is also proved by the fact that it was introduced by Mr. Shackleton, a Labour Member, whose democratic principles are at least as strong as those of Cabinet Ministers.

The Bill passed its second reading by a majority of 110, a majority larger than was obtained for the Budget and the Government's Veto resolutions, but in spite of this the Government placed their veto upon the Bill and refused to give the House of Commons any further time in which to discuss it. Simply because they were themselves opposed to this Bill, **the Government refused to allow the will of the people, as expressed by their elected representatives in the House of Commons, to prevail.** The House of Lords could not do worse than this! By their action in vetoing the Woman Suffrage Bill the Government have proved that their campaign against the veto of the Lords is hollow and meaningless—a mere party game.

Electors! The Government try to persuade you that they are fighting for your rights, but we point out to you that **you will gain nothing by abolishing the Lords' Veto so long as the Government impose an absolute Veto upon the decisions of the House of Commons** and will not allow your elected representatives to have a political soul that they can call their own.

A Sham Pledge.

Instead of repenting of his action in vetoing the women's Bill, and instead of promising to amend his policy at the earliest possible moment, the Prime Minister has insulted the women of the country by giving them a worthless pledge. What is the Prime Minister's pledge? It is that he will remove his veto from the Woman Suffrage question **not next Session**, which would have satisfied us, but at some indefinite and unspecified time **in the next Parliament**, which does not satisfy us at all.

We know that **the Government cannot be compelled to carry out a promise for "next Parliament."** Session after session they can put off the settlement of our question, and then they can (as they have done just now) finally disappoint us by bringing about a sudden dissolution of Parliament.

The Liberal Government have given us such **pledges before, and they have always broken them.** Thus, in May, 1908, Mr. Asquith announced the intention of the Government, before the close of the existing Parliament, to bring in an Electoral Reform Bill, to which a Woman Suffrage amendment could be moved. That Parliament terminated without any attempt being made to carry this pledge into effect. Before the last General Election Mr. Asquith declared, at the Albert Hall, that "the question of Women Suffrage is clearly one on which the House of Commons ought to be given an opportunity of expressing its view," and he subsequently said that the House ought to have an opportunity of effectively dealing with this whole question. In spite of that pledge, Mr. Asquith has, as we have seen, in the Session that is just over, refused to let the House of Commons deal with the Votes for Women question. Now he offers us a similar pledge for next Parliament. If we were to accept this pledge the same farce would be repeated, and we should find ourselves at the end of another Parliament still voteless.

Women's Rejection of the Pledge.

As soon as this latest sham pledge was made it was rejected, and some hundreds of women went to Downing Street to express their indignation. There they were, **by Government orders, attacked and driven back by the police. Seventy-three of these women are now in prison as a consequence of their protest.** Some of them are serving sentences of as long as two months, because by throwing stones they have done a few shillings' worth of damage to window panes. We say to any men electors who may condemn the women's action: "If your forefathers had not thrown stones and broken windows, you would have been voteless to-day." The breaking of the windows in the house of the Duke of Wellington, who opposed the Reform Bill of 1832, is historic, and the memory of those who broke the windows is revered by the men of the present day. **Would it not be better to give women the Vote than to send them to prison?**

Women are prepared to risk their health and life and to sacrifice their liberty in order to win the Vote. Electors, are you going to help them in their struggle? If you believe that they are right in claiming the Vote for women householders, if you believe that they have already suffered enough in their fight for freedom, if you believe that the House of Commons ought to be free to carry the Votes for Women Bill and other measures for the benefit of the country without interference from an autocratic Cabinet, then **vote against the Government!** This is the only way of showing that you condemn the Government's behaviour.

In asking you to vote against the Government we are acting quite independently of every political party. We are not against the Liberals because they are Liberals, but because they are the party in power; if there were a Conservative Government in power, we should work against them unless they gave us the Vote.

Our Offer to the Government.

We put before the Government the following offer:—

If Mr. Asquith will promise on behalf of the Government that the House of Commons shall be left free to carry a Votes for Women Bill into law NEXT SESSION, we will at once withdraw our opposition to the Government at this Election.

In other words, if the Prime Minister withdraws his sham pledge, and gives us instead a real pledge, which will ensure that women get the Vote next year, we shall abandon our attempt to secure the defeat of the Government candidates.

Some Liberal candidates will appeal for your support on the ground that they personally are in favour of Woman Suffrage, but they must suffer for the sins of their leaders by being defeated at the poll. They must stand or fall with the Government whose supporters they are. They are private soldiers in the Government army, and having joined that army they must take the consequences. If, before the election day, they get from the Prime Minister a pledge that the Votes for Women question shall be dealt with next Session, they will not be opposed any longer. But if they do not get that pledge, then they must pay the penalty.

ELECTORS! The Votes for Women question is a live question, and the women's fight for the vote is a real fight. Can you say as much for the Government's programme and the Government's fight? The Government, by opposing Votes for Women, and by vetoing a Bill which has been approved by the House of Commons, have betrayed their own principles. Therefore there is only one thing to be done—

VOTE AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT, AND KEEP THE LIBERAL OUT.

Emmeline Pankhurst.
Emmeline Pethick Lawrence.

Copies of this leaflet can be obtained free (from the Woman's Press, 156, Charing Cross-road, W.C.) by friends of the movement for distribution.

Debenham & Freebody

Wigmore Street.
(Cavendish Square) London W.

EVENING FROCKS



Evening Gown (as sketch), in good quality ninon over soft satin, tunic and bodice trimmed bugle embroidery; high waist, with gold girdle. In ivory, pink, sky, and all the newest colourings. Exceptional value. **98/6**



Evening Gown (as sketch), in soft satin, overskirt of fine pleated ninon, trimmed beaded net, bodice and sleeves beaded net, finished at waist with silk girdle. In new evening shades, also in white and black. Perfect shape. **8 1/2 gns.**

CATALOGUE POST FREE.

Debenham & Freebody

THE GENERAL ELECTION.

Suffragettes Oppose the Government Nominees.—Special Attention to Doubtful Seats.

The General Election campaign has now begun in earnest, and all over the country the Women's Social and Political Union is vigorously at work.

In consequence of the hostility of the Liberal Government which is now in power, and will remain in power unless Liberal candidates are defeated at the polls, the Women's Social and Political Union are fighting against it at the General Election. They are fighting against it because this Government has refused to do them justice during the five years in which it has been in office, and because it refuses to promise to do justice in the future if it is retained in power.

This policy of the Women's Social and Political Union of fighting against the Government involves opposition to Liberal candidates throughout the length and breadth of the country.

Wherever Women Suffragists are they are invited to use every means in their power to secure the defeat of the Liberal candidate. If they have not already done so, they should send for posters and other free literature and place themselves in touch with the head office, 4, Clements Inn, Strand.

Special attention is being directed to seats where there is a narrow majority and where the turning of a few votes will settle the election. Among these are the following, where a special campaign is being organised by the Women's Social and Political Union, where workers will be gladly welcomed. The loan of motor cars especially on Polling Day, is urgently asked for.

BATTERSEA.

Polling Day, Tuesday, December 6.

Candidates.—John Burns (L.), Col. Sir J. Harrington (C.).
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—330, Battersea Park Rd.
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Haig.
Result in 1910.—L., 8,540; C., 7,965.—*Maj.*, 565.

Chelsea, Kensal Town, and Battersea members are concentrating all their efforts on Battersea, the seat of a Cabinet Minister, John Burns. The Committee Rooms are opened each morning at 10 o'clock. Friends are urged to come as early as possible as there is much to do. Help is wanted for bill distributing, chalking, paper selling. Speakers and members who can chair are especially needed for Saturday and Monday, and everyone should turn up on Tuesday, the day of the poll. A Special Election Fund has been started, as the local unions are entirely responsible for all election expenses. Gratefully acknowledged.—Miss Downing, £22s.; Miss Mina Sheppard, £1; Miss Ellen Lloyd, £1; Miss Haig, £22s.; Mrs. Monck Mason, 10s.; Miss Sheppard, 10s.; Miss Cameron, 10s.; Miss Blacklock, 10s.; Miss Robertson Stuart, 5s.; Miss M. Robertson Stuart, 5s.; Miss F. White, 2s. 6d. A successful meeting was held in Battersea Town Hall on Wednesday, November 30, when Miss Christabel Pankhurst, Mrs. Drummond, and Miss Naylor were the speakers. The loan of a motor car for Monday and Tuesday, especially the latter day, would be most welcome.

CAMBERWELL.—PECKHAM.

Polling Day, Saturday, Dec. 3.

Candidates.—H. C. Gooch (C.), A. Richardson (L.).
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—70A, Elm Grove, Rye Lane, Peckham.
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Mrs. Cameron-Swan.
Result in 1910.—C., 5,330; L., 5,247.—*Maj.*, 83.

The organiser makes a special appeal for women to help at the polling stations to-morrow (Saturday). They should call at the Committee Rooms and state what time they can give.

ILFORD.

Hon. Sec. (pro tem).—Miss Harvey, 27, Norfolk Road, Seven Kings.
Members are reminded that every moment they have to spare should be given to help with election work.

EAST ISLINGTON.

Polling Day, Monday, December 5.

Candidates.—P. B. Pidditch (C.), G. H. Radford (L.).
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—63, Hornsey Road.
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Sylvia Hart.
Result in 1910.—L., 5,003; C., 4,674.—*Maj.*, 329.

NORTH ISLINGTON.

Polling Day, Monday, December 5.

Candidates.—G. A. Touche (U.), D. S. Waterlow (L.).
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—680A, Holloway Road.
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Bonwick.
Result in 1910.—L., 5,543; C., 5,512.—*Maj.*, 31.

WEST ISLINGTON.

Polling Day, Monday, December 5.

Candidates.—W. G. Black (C.), the Right Hon. T. Lough (L.).
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—278, Calcutt Road.
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Hailer.
Result in 1910.—L., 3,768; L.U., 3,516.—*Maj.*, 254.

The above three constituencies are being thoroughly organised by Mrs. Ayrton Gould and a band of helpers. An urgent appeal is made for workers of every kind to call at the Committee Rooms. Stewards are needed for Miss Pankhurst's meeting in the Skating Rink at the Archway Tavern, Holloway Road, to-morrow (Saturday) at 3 o'clock. Admission is free, but reserved seats can be had at 6d., 3d., and 2d.

Tickets can be obtained at the Committee Rooms. Helpers, speakers and volunteers for the polling station on Monday, also motor cars, are badly needed.

LAMBETH.—KENNINGTON.

Polling Day, Tuesday, December 6.

Candidates.—Col. F. A. Lucas (U.), Stephen Collins (R.), Victor Grayson (S.).
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—135 South Lambeth Road.
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Leonora Tyson.
Result in 1910.—L., 4,248; C., 3,865.—*Maj.*, 381.

Mr. Stephen Collins voted to keep the Conciliation Bill in Committee of the whole House. He was approached by a deputation of representative women and urged to sign a memorial to the Prime Minister to the effect that by so voting he had no intention of shelving the measure, and calling upon Mr. Asquith to give time for its passage into law. He refused to sign the memorial for three reasons:—1. That his London colleagues did not appear to have done so to any appreciable extent. 2. That under these circumstances his signature would bear no weight. 3. That he did not wish to embarrass his Party Leader. Will all true supporters of Votes for Women call at the Committee Rooms without delay? Help of all kinds is needed, speaking, canvassing, chalking, bill-distributing, secretarial work, etc. A fighting fund is urgently needed. Contributions should be sent to the organiser, Miss Christabel Pankhurst will address a meeting in the Institute, Priory Grove, South Lambeth, on the eve of the poll, Monday, December 5, at 8 p.m. Admission free. Reserved Seats, 1s. & 6d. Please call for tickets on sale or return.

LEWISHAM.

Shop and Office.—107, High Street, Lewisham.
Shop hours. 8 to 5 p.m. Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.
Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Bouvier, 22, Mount Pleasant Road.

Local members are helping with election work at Kennington. Will all those willing to help as speakers, chairwomen, canvassers, or paper-sellers report themselves at the Kennington Committee Rooms? An urgent appeal is made, particularly to those who cannot give any active help, to contribute to the General Election Fund.

LIMEHOUSE.

Polling Day, December 7.

Arrangements are being made for open-air meetings, canvassing, paper-selling and distribution of election literature and leaflets. Mrs. Arundel-Smith will be very glad to hear from members and friends willing to help in this way. They should communicate with her at 3, Colville Gardens, Bayswater, W.

N.W. LONDON.

Shop and Office.—218, High Road, Kilburn. Tel. 1183
Hampstead. Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Penn Gaskell, 12, Hill Road, Willesden.

As no Liberal dares to contest this constituency at the present time, local workers and speakers are asked to give all the help they can in other constituencies, and all meetings in this district are

cancelled to set them free till the election is over. Gratefully acknowledged.—Miss Janet Green, 4s. 6d.; Mr. Horace Verden, 2s. 6d.; Miss Dobson, 1s.

SHOREDITCH (Hoxton).

Polling Day, Saturday, December 3.

Candidates.—Francis Francis (C.), H. G. Chancellor (L.).
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—275, Old Street, E.C. 1.
W.S.P.U. Organisers.—Miss H. Orage, Miss Hicks.
Result in 1910.—L., 3,736; C., 3,398.—*Maj.*, 338.

Enormous interest has been aroused by the Suffragettes in the constituency—all day a crowd of people press round the Committee Rooms. Help of all kinds is needed to-day and especially to-morrow (polling day), and it is hoped that everyone who has an hour or two to spare will call at the Committee Rooms. Motor cars are badly needed. A special Election Fund has been opened, and the organiser appeals to those who cannot help personally to help financially.

WALTHAMSTOW.

W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Mrs. D. Milne, 23, Cleveland Park Avenue.

The Walthamstow Union has been in existence only two weeks and is now called upon to perform the extremely difficult task of bringing votes for women prominently before 30,000 electors in a constituency pronouncedly Liberal. Speakers, funds, and a motor car are urgently needed.

WEST ST. PANCRAS.

Polling Day, Monday, Dec. 5.

Candidates.—Felix Cassel, K.C. (C.), Sir W. Collins (L.).
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—153, Albany Street, N.W.
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Mrs. Bates.
Result in 1910.—L., 3,553; C., 3,543.—*Maj.*, 10.

It is most important that all local workers should give as much time as possible to the election work in West St. Pancras, where the Hampstead and Kennington W.S.P.U.s are joining forces. Everyone will be needed for polling day (Monday, December 5), and workers should state beforehand how much time they are prepared to give on that day.

COUNTRY CONSTITUENCIES.

BARNET.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Susan Watt, 15, Stratford Road, Barnet.

Local members and sympathisers are reminded of the meeting on Monday (see below). It is important that there should be a large attendance. Tickets are going rapidly, and those who wish for reserved seats (1s. each) should apply at once to the Secretary, and at Coving's Library, High Street. Stewards are urgently needed; will volunteers send in their names to the Secretary? They should be at the Hall not later than 6.45 p.m. Monday, Dec. 5.—Town Hall. Miss Isabel Seymour, F. W. Petrick Lawrence, Esq., 8 p.m.

GENERAL ELECTION MEETINGS IN LONDON.

December.					
Friday, 2	Battersea, Allwell Road, St. John's Road	Miss M. Sheppard. Chair: Miss C. Downing	8 p.m.		
" "	Battersea, Bridge Road, W.	Miss Naylor, Mrs. Tow	8 p.m.		
" "	" " Carsons, Lombard Road	Miss M. Sheppard. Chair: Miss Barwell	1 p.m.		
" "	" " Morgans Church Road	Miss Naylor, Mrs. Bull	1 p.m.		
" "	" " Prince's Head	Miss Canning, Miss Haig	1 p.m.		
" "	156, Charing Cross Road, W.	Poster Parade	11 a.m.		
" "	Croydon, Large Public Hall	Miss Garrett Anderson, M.D., Miss Evelyn Sharp, Miss Douglas Smith	8 p.m.		
" "	Harrow Road, Sutherland Avenue	Miss Blundell	8 p.m.		
" "	Kennington, Pontman Road	Mrs. Drummond, Leonora Tyson	7.30 p.m.		
" "	" " Heyford Avenue	Mrs. Drummond, Leonora Tyson	9 p.m.		
" "	" " Miles Street	Mrs. Drummond, Leonora Tyson	8.15 p.m.		
" "	" " Sancerot Street	Mrs. Drummond, Leonora Tyson	7.30 p.m.		
" "	" " Tyers Street Cross	Miss Heatley	7.30 p.m.		
" "	" " Vauxhall Street	Miss Kelly	7.30 p.m.		
" "	Kilburn, Mosses Avenue	Miss Burroughs	7.30 p.m.		
" "	Stratford Grove		8 p.m.		
" "	Walthamstow, Church Hill		8 p.m.		
" "	Wimbledon, 6, Victoria Crescent	Mrs. Bradford. Chair: Mrs. Lamartine Yates	8.30 p.m.		
Saturday, 3	Battersea, Battersea Square	Miss Canning, Mrs. Bourne	8 p.m.		
" "	" " Garsia, York Road	Miss Naylor, Miss C. Downing	1 p.m.		
" "	" " May and Bakers, Church Road		1 p.m.		
" "	" " Meath Street, Queen's Road	Miss Barwell, Mrs. Bartlett	1 p.m.		
" "	" " Prince's Head	Miss Heatley, Mrs. Strong	8 p.m.		
" "	Boston, Tolmer's Institute, Drummond Street	Miss Naylor, Mrs. Tow	8 p.m.		
" "	" " Hammersmith, The Grove	Miss Christabel Pankhurst, L.L.B.	8 p.m.		
" "	" " Ilington, Archway Tavern, Holloway Road Skating Rink	H. W. Nevins, Esq. Chair: Mrs. Bates	8 p.m.		
" "	" " Kennington, Heyford Avenue	Mrs. E. L. Butler, Mrs. Mackay	7 p.m.		
" "	" " Miles Street		3 p.m.		
" "	" " Sancerot Street	Miss Christabel Pankhurst, L.L.B.	7.30 p.m.		
" "	" " Lewisham, Shop	Miss Kelly	7.30 p.m.		
" "	" " Rally	Miss Heatley	7.30 p.m.		
" "	Walthamstow, Hoe Street Station	Committee Meeting	8.30 p.m.		
" "	Walthamstow, Hilly Fields	Members and Friends	5 to 7 p.m.		
Sunday, 4	Wimbledon Common	Miss C. D. Townsend, Mrs. Bouvier	7.30 p.m.		
" "	" "	Miss West. Chair: Mrs. Lamartine Yates	8.15 p.m.		
Monday, 5	Battersea, Bridge Road, W.	Miss M. Sheppard, Mrs. Hosack	3 p.m.		
" "	" " Doways Steelworks Road	Miss Naylor, Mrs. Bartlett	8 p.m.		
" "	" " Kerrison Road, Falcon Rd.	Miss Canning, Dr. Edie	1 p.m.		
" "	" " Price's, York Road	Miss M. Sheppard, Miss Barwell	1 p.m.		
" "	" " Prince's Head	Miss Naylor, Mrs. Strong	8 p.m.		
" "	Forest Gate, Earlham Hall	Jumble Sale	2 p.m.		
" "	" " Christmas Fair	Lady Sybil Smith	8 p.m.		
" "	Queen's Hall, Langham Place, W.	Mrs. Patrick Lawrence, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, L.L.B.	3 to 5 p.m.		
" "	" " South Lambeth Institute, Priory Grove	Miss Christabel Pankhurst, L.L.B., Chair: Leonora Tyson	8 p.m.		
" "	" " Vauxhall Street, S.E.	Miss Heatley	7.30 p.m.		
" "	Walthamstow, Coppermill Lane		8 p.m.		
" "	West Croydon, 2, Station Buildings		8 p.m.		
" "	100, Hammersmith Road, W.		8 p.m.		
Tuesday, 6	Paddington, 50, Prad Street	Miss Graham	3.15 p.m.		
" "	Walthamstow, "Lord Palmerston"		8 p.m.		
Wednesday, 7	Lewisham, Avenue House, Avenue Road	Whist Drive and Dance	1.30 p.m.		
" "	Leytons, G.E.R. Station	Miss Lightman	1.30 p.m.		
" "	Norfolk Place, Edgware Road		8.15 p.m.		
Thursday, 8	Memorial Hall, Farringdon Street, E.C.	Mrs. Patrick Lawrence and Released Prisoners	8 p.m.		
" "	Walthamstow, Hoe Street Station		7.30 p.m.		
Friday, 9	156, Charing Cross Road, W.	Poster Parade	11 a.m.		
" "	Harrow Road, Sutherland Avenue	Miss Vera Wentworth	8 p.m.		
" "	Wimbledon, 6, Victoria Crescent	Miss Naylor. Chair: Rose Lamartine Yates	8 p.m.		
" "	The Broadway				

Every Friday, 156, Charing Cross Road, W.C., Poster Parade, 11 a.m.

BATH.

Polling Day, Monday, December 5.

Candidates.—Sir Charles Hunter (C.), Lord Alex. Thynne (C.), Mr. G. P. Gooch (L.), Mr. G. A. Harly (L.).
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—12, Walcot Street.
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Mary Blathway.
Result in 1910.—C., 3,889; L., 3,771.—*Maj.*, 118.

Helpers and motor cars are urgently needed especially for Monday, the day of the poll. Members are urged to give every spare moment they have, as there is any amount of work to be done. Tickets for the meeting on Wednesday (see below), prices, 2s. 6d., 1s., and 6d., may now be obtained at the Shop. Will members or friends willing to help as stewards on this occasion kindly send in their names at once to Miss Blathway, at 12, Walcot Street?

Wednesday, Dec. 7.—Assembly Rooms. The Earl of Lytton. Chair: Miss Annie Kenney, 8 p.m.

BIRKENHEAD.

Candidates.—A. Bigland (U.), H. Vivian (L.).
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—28, Hamilton Street.
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss A. Flatman.
Result in 1910.—L., 8,120; C., 7,976.—*Maj.*, 144.

A vigorous campaign is taking place. Dinner-hour and evening meetings are being held, and canvassing is going on vigorously. Any member with time to spare should help with the chalking, bill-distributing, etc. Donations to meet the extra expense will be gratefully received. Friday, December 2.—Birkenhead, Y.M.C.A. Hall, F. W. Petrick Lawrence, Esq., 8 p.m. Saturday, December 3.—Birkenhead, Grange Road, 3 and 8 p.m.; Haymarket, 3 and 8 p.m.; Oxtow Road, 3 and 8 p.m.

BOURNEMOUTH.

Office.—21, Old Christchurch Road.

Organiser.—Miss G. Lawis.

A very successful meeting was held at Winton last Saturday, and election literature has been given away at the candidates' meetings. A list of open-air meetings will be found below. Paper-sellers for these are wanted. A special Election Fund has been opened; contributions will be gladly received by Miss Pridden at the office. Friday, December 2.—Pokesdown, The Fisherman's Walk, Miss Pridden and others, 7.30 p.m. Saturday, December 3.—Westbourne, Landseer Road, Miss Pridden and others, 7.30 p.m.

BRIGHTON.

Polling Day, Tuesday, December 6.

Candidates.—Capt. G. Tryon (U.), Hon. W. Rice (U.), M. Nicholls (L.), A. Morris (L.).
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—8, North Street, Quadrant.
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—(Pro tem.) Mrs. McKeown.
Result in 1910.—C., 11,567; L., 7,506.—*Maj.*, 4,061.

An earnest appeal is made to members to rally to the committee rooms and give in their names for speaking, paper-selling, chalking, bill-distributing, posting bills, etc. Two members will probably provide motor-cars. As the time is short the Union is undertaking the responsibility of putting up the large election posters, but there are special election posters for use of members at the office, and it is hoped that in the various localities they will do what they can to help towards the expense of posting in their own district these special posters. The reunion at the Bon-bon Shop on November 24 was most interesting. Miss Turner gave a stirring account of her experiences of the deputation and in the war in Downing Street, also her experiences with Mrs. Clarke in the police court. Members will be greatly relieved to learn that Mrs. Clarke is having the benefit of the new prison rule and can have her own clothes, etc.

Friday, Dec. 2.—Front. Miss Naylor, Miss Turner, Miss Lightman, Miss Vera Wentworth, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Preston Circus. Miss Himes, Miss Kelly, Mrs. McKeown, Miss Lightman, 8 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 3.—Front. Miss Lightman, Miss Beach, Miss Himes, Miss Turner, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. York Place School or Stafford's Corner. Miss Lightman, Miss Turner, Miss Andrews, Miss Vera Wentworth, Miss Ogston, Miss Kelly, Miss Naylor, 8 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 4.—Front. Miss Ogston, Mrs. Leigh, Miss Turner, Miss Himes, Miss Beach, Miss Lightman, Miss Andrews, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 5.—Front. Miss Naylor, Miss Kelly, Miss Turner, Mrs. McKeown, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Congress Hall. Miss Naylor, Miss Kelly, Miss Vera Wentworth, Miss Turner, 8 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 9.—Bon Bon Shop, 42, Preston Street, 7.30 p.m.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE (Wisbech).

Polling Day, Wednesday, Dec. 14.

Candidates.—Hon. Nell Primrose (L.), Lord Robert Cecil (C.).
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—White Lion Temperance Hotel.
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Grace Roe.
Result in 1910.—L., 5,279; C., 5,079.—*Maj.*, 200.

Mrs. Pankhurst opened the campaign last night in the Public Hall, March, at 8 p.m. A very large number of meetings are being arranged, and members and friends able to work in this district are asked to lose no time in communicating with the organiser. As this division is a very scattered one, a special appeal is made for a car to convey Mrs. Pankhurst to the many meetings she will address during the next fortnight.

Friday, Dec. 2.—Chatteris. Open Exchange, Mrs. Pankhurst, 8 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 5.—Wisbech. Selwyn Hall, Mrs. Pankhurst, 8 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 6.—Wisbech. Lecture Hall, Miss Isabel Seymour, 8 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 10.—March. Public Hall, Mrs. Pankhurst, 8 p.m.

CANTERBURY.

Polling Day.

Candidates.—Col. John Howard (U.), F. Bennett Goldney (Ind. U.), W. J. Fisher (L.).
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—The County Hotel.
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss F. B. Macaulay.
Result in 1910.—U., 1,371; L.U., 1,350; L., 815.—*Maj.*, 21.

By kind permission of Mrs. Tomkins, the County Hotel is the headquarters of the

W.S.P.U., and from it an active campaign is being carried on. Particulars of meetings, etc., can be obtained at the County Hotel, Canterbury, and at 2, York Terrace, Ramsgate.

Wednesday, Dec. 7.—Margate, Fairfield, Cliftonville Avenue, At Home. Hostess: Mrs. Barnett Smith, 7 to 10 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 8.—Canterbury, County Hotel, 3 p.m.

COVENTRY.

Polling Day, Tuesday, December 6.

Candidates.—J. K. Foster (C.), D. M. Mason (L.).
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Dawson, St. Peter's Vicarage.

Result in 1910.—C., 7,389; L., 7,153.—Maj., 216.

A special appeal is made for helpers for the few remaining days before the poll. Daily meetings are being held, and volunteers are wanted for selling the paper and distributing the W.S.P.U. Election Address. The work so far has fallen on a few; will other members and sympathisers come forward and help?

DARLINGTON.

Polling Day, Saturday, December 3.

Candidates.—H. Pike Pease (U.), J. T. T. Lincoln (L.).
W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—5, Meland Street.
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Mrs. Baines.

Result in 1910.—L., 4,815; U., 4,798.—Maj., 29.

The organiser appeals to all local women workers to call at her address at once, where there is plenty of work to be done. Any lady or gentleman willing to lend a motor car for a few days would render valuable assistance.

DUDLEY.

Polling Day, December 7.

Candidates.—Maj. Griffith Boscawen (U.), A. G. Hooper (L.).

W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—4, Union Street.

W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Hilda Burditt.

Result in 1910.—L., 8,342; U., 8,155.—Maj., 187.

The W.S.P.U. were fortunate enough to obtain good Committee Rooms in the centre of the town, and numbers of open-air meetings have been held at factory gates and in the two markets. Special attention is being given to Quarry Bank, the most Liberal Quarter, and to part of Cradley Heath. Will anyone lend a motor car for Polling Day?

DUNDEE.

Polling Day, Thursday, Dec. 8.

Candidates.—W. Churchill (L.), Alex. Wilkie (Lab.).

W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—61, Nethergate.

W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Fraser Smith.

Result in 1910.—L., 10,385; C., 4,552.—Maj., 5,813.

Workers are urgently needed for the General Election. Full particulars of the various ways of helping can be had at the office. Contributions to the General Election Fund will be most welcome.

Friday, Dec. 2.—High School Gates, 8 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 3.—Market, Votes for Women and Literature stall, 2 p.m.; Foot of Hilltown, 3 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 5.—Farnham Street, 8 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 6.—Top of Hilltown, 8 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 7.—61, Nethergate, Mrs. Fraser Smith.

Miss Annie Kenney is in charge of the following three constituencies—

CORNWALL (Bodmin).

Candidates.—Sir R. Pole-Carew (L.U.), Isaac Foot (L.).
W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Jessie Smith, Grove Park, Liskeard.

Result in 1910.—L., 5,133; L.U., 5,083.—Maj., 50.

DEVONSHIRE (Mid.).

Polling Day, Friday, December 10.

Candidates.—Capt. E. F. Morrison-Bell (U.), C. R. Buxton (L.).

W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Annie Kenney.

Result in 1910.—L., 5,668; L.U., 5,421.—Maj., 247.

DEVONSHIRE (Torquay).

Polling Day, Monday, December 12.

Candidates.—Col. C. R. Burn (U.), Sir F. Layland-Barrett (L.).

W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Annie Kenney, c/o Miss Twist, "Esperanza," Bridge Road.

Result in 1910.—L.U., 5,104; C., 5,093.—Maj., 11.

Miss Kenney appeals to members and sympathisers to come forward and help in their own constituencies. Members in other parts of the West of England who are prepared to help with election work should communicate with her immediately. In order that the constituencies may be thoroughly worked, the following are needed:—More helpers, motor cars, or other vehicles, to enable speakers to hold a large number of meetings daily, and funds. The expenses are heavy, including, as they do, committee rooms rent, hiring of halls, printing and travelling expenses. Subscriptions will be gladly received, as the West of England election campaign must be self-supporting.

ST. ANDREWS.

Candidates.—Major Anstruther Gray (C.), J. D. Millar (L.).

W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—8, Melville Place, Queensferry St.

W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Lucy Burns, B.A.

Result in 1910.—L., 1,507; L.U., 1,469.—Maj., 38.

Helpers are required for General Election work. Members and friends able to do anything, however small, are asked to write to Miss Hudson, at the office. Miss Hutchinson, hon. secretary for Kirkcaldy, has offered on behalf of the local members there to pay for a display of W.S.P.U. election posters in their district.

ESSEX—SOUTH-EAST.

Polling Day, Monday, December 12.

Candidates.—J. H. M. Kirkwood (U.), Mr. J. Burrows (L.).

W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—High Street, Rayleigh.

W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Mrs. Warren.

Result in 1910.—C., 11,199; L., 9,288.—Maj., 1,911.

Local members hope to canvass not only every house in Rayleigh, but also in the neighbouring villages of Thundersley, Eastwood, Hockley and Rochford. Will all who can give any help please call at the Committee Rooms, where plenty of work is waiting to be done? Help in Committee Rooms, canvassers, and paper-sellers for open-air meetings

are needed. Those unable to help personally can send a subscription to help with the work.

FALMOUTH.

On Thursday last Mrs. Frank Corbett inaugurated the Election campaign by a very successful outdoor meeting. On Friday and Saturday the paper sold well outside the respective Liberal and Conservative candidates' meetings. Great interest was aroused by the announcement of Miss Helen Ogston's visit.

Monday, Dec. 5.—Polytechnic Hall, Miss H. Ogston, 8 p.m.

GLASGOW.

Polling Day, Thursday, December 8.

Candidates.—Rt. Hon. C. S. Dickson (C.), Prof. A. F. Murlson (L.).

W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—502, Sauchiehall Street.

W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Barbara Wylie.

Result in 1910.—C., 8,713; L., 6,058.—Maj., 655.

Members are concentrating all their efforts on the Central Division. Helpers are urged to assemble at the Committee Rooms each morning at 11 o'clock sharp, as there is much work to be done. Paper-sellers and bill distributors are needed hourly. Motor cars, wagonettes, or any other vehicles, would be of the greatest use. Will members lend them? Members have a good deal of work before them. St. Andrew's Hall must be filled for the great meeting on Dec. 8, at which Miss Christabel Pankhurst will speak. Canvassers, speakers, bill distributors, paper-sellers—all must work their hardest and best.

Tuesday, Dec. 6.—Falsley, Clark Memorial Hall, Miss Wylie. Chair: Mrs. Hally Brown.

Thursday, Dec. 8.—St. Andrew's Hall, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, 8 p.m.

JARROW.

Polling Day, Thursday, December 8.

Candidates.—Godfrey Palmer, M.P. (L.), James Kirkley (C.), A. G. Cameron (Lab.).

W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Annie Williams.

Result in 1910.—L., 4,885; Lab., 4,818.—Maj., 67.

The organiser and Miss Eden held an out-of-door meeting on Tuesday, November 22, and on Saturday last eight dozen Votes for Women were sold by Miss Eden, Miss Dawson, and Mrs. Crothers. Volunteers are urgently needed for canvassing and speaking. Contributions towards election expenses will be gratefully acknowledged by the organiser. Bill-posting will be a heavy item.

Monday, Dec. 5.—Jarrow.

LEICESTERSHIRE EAST, OR MELTON.

Polling Day, Wednesday, December 7.

Candidates.—Col. C. E. Yate (C.), Major Dunne (L.).

W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—275, Belgrave Gate.

W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Dorothy Bowker.

Result in 1910.—L., 7,748; C., 7,625.—Maj., 123.

Members have heard with indignation of Miss Pethick's unjust imprisonment. They should call at the Committee Rooms, any time after 10 a.m., to receive instructions. Every house must be canvassed, and copies of the W.S.P.U. election address and notices of meetings in the Leicester part of the constituency distributed. Volunteers are urgently needed for standing outside the polling stations on polling day (probably December 7), as this cold weather makes long standing for individuals an impossibility. The organiser will be glad to hear of anyone willing to lend a motor-car during election week, particularly on Tuesday, December 6th. Funds will be most acceptable for election expenses, which will be heavy.

Friday, Dec. 2.—St. Mark's Schools, Belgrave (women only), 3 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 3.—St. Barnabas Schools, St. Barnabas Road, 8 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 5.—Melton Mowbray, 8 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 6.—Harrison Road Schools, 8 p.m.

NEWCASTLE.

Polling Day, Monday, December 5.

Candidates.—Edward Shortt (L.), Walter Hudson (Lab.), Hon. Jasper Ridley (C.), Edward Clark (C.).

W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—77, Blackett Street.

W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Annie Williams.

Result in 1910.—Lab., 18,241; C., 14,067.—Maj., 4,174.

The organiser appeals for canvassers and volunteers for a poster parade to-morrow (Saturday) morning, and also for workers on polling day.

Friday, Dec. 2.—South Shields, Ingham Hall. Miss Williams and others, 7.30 p.m.

Saturday, December 3.—North Shields and Newcastle. Miss Williams and others, 7.30 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 6.—Cramlington, Miners' Hall. Miss Williams, 8 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 7.—Tynemouth. Miss Williams, Mrs. Atkinson and others, 7.30 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 8.—Penrith. Literary and Debating Society, Miss Williams.

PORTSMOUTH AND SOUTHAMPTON.

Organiser.—Miss C. A. L. Marsh, 7, Cranewater Avenue, Portsmouth.

The organiser appeals specially for paper sellers, as many are needed to be outside election candidates' meetings.

PRESTON, ST. ANNE'S-ON-TH-SEA AND DISTRICT.

Organisers.—Mrs. Rigby, 11, Glover's Court, Preston; Miss Johnson, the Hydro, Lytham.

The loan of a motor-car will be a very great help in advertising the meetings. Who will lend one?

Friday, Dec. 2.—Market Place, Miss G. Brackenbury, 11.30 a.m.; Electric Works, Miss G. Brackenbury, 1 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 3.—Market Place, Miss Lily Norbury, 3 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 5.—Market Place, Miss Laura Ainsworth, 2.30 p.m.

READING.

Polling Day, December 3.

Candidates.—Capt. L. O. Wilson (U.), Sir Rufus Isaacs, K.C. (L.).

W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—324, West Street.

W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Barrett.

Result in 1910.—L., 5,264; L.U., 5,057.—Maj., 207.

An energetic campaign is going forward. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence arrived in the constituency on

Wednesday and remains until Polling Day. Miss Letty Withall, and Mrs. Leigh are also working here. Daily meetings have been held in different parts of the constituency, and voters have been extensively canvassed with the W.S.P.U. Election Address. All local members and sympathisers are asked to come forward and help to-morrow (Saturday), polling day. The loan of a motor car for the day is urgently needed. Will any member or friend offer one?

Friday, Dec. 2.—Palmer's Hall, Women's Meeting, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, 3 p.m.

REDHILL.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Richmond, Fingates House.

Saturday, Dec. 3.—Chapel Road. Open Air Meeting. Miss Maguire, Chair: Mrs. Cather, 7.30 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 7.—Carlton Room, Cake and Candy Sale. Poster Exhibition, Bran Pie Competitions, 4 p.m.

SCARBOROUGH.

Polling Day, Saturday, December 3.

Candidates.—Hon. G. V. A. Monckton-Arundel (U.), W. Russell Bon (L.).

W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—72, Westborough.

W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss M. Phillips.

Result in 1910.—L., 3,011; U., 2,719.—Maj., 292.

A brief but very strenuous campaign has been held, Scarborough having been stirred to great indignation by the news of Dr. Marion Mackenzie's heroism on the deputation and her subsequent sentence. Miss Mackenzie, Miss Suffield (the energetic local hon. sec.) Mrs. Wardle, Miss Vickerman, and many others have worked unceasingly, and Mrs. Beldon, Mrs. Behrens, Miss Campbell, and Mrs. Keeling, of Bradford, have been to speak, and to help with last night's meeting for Miss Evelyn Sharp.

SHEFFIELD (Hallam).

Polling Day, Wednesday, December 7.

Candidates.—Rt. Hon. C. B. Stuart-Wortley (U.), Arthur Neal (L.).

W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—45, Marlborough Road.

W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss A. Pankhurst.

Result in 1910.—U., 6,181; L., 5,985.—Maj., 216.

The Hallam Election Campaign opened on Friday last with a well-attended meeting in the Burgoyne Road Schools. Mrs. Green and Miss A. Pankhurst spoke. A good meeting was also held on Saturday in the Philadelphia Schools. The organiser makes a very earnest appeal for motor cars and workers; as several meetings are held daily the need for both is most urgent.

Friday, Dec. 2.—Broomhill and Abbeydale Road Schools, 7.30 and 8 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 3.—Springfield and Western Bank, 7.30 and 8 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 5.—Langsett Road School, 8 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 6.—Morley Street and Pomona Schools, 7.30 and 8 p.m.

SOUTHEND AND WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA.

Members are reminded to bring as many friends as possible with them to the meeting (see below), as workers are wanted for the election campaign. Monday, Dec. 5.—Southend, The Cottage Tea Rooms, Nelson Street, 8 p.m.

STAFFORD.

Polling Day, Saturday, December 3.

Candidates.—Col. Nicholson (U.), R. W. Essex (L.).

W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—Eastgate Street.

W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss D. Evans.

Result in 1910.—L., 2,042; U., 1,967.—Maj., 65.

Helpers are urgently needed for to-morrow (Sat.). Motor-cars and other vehicles will be welcomed. Funds are wanted to cover expenses.

TYNEMOUTH.

Polling Day, Wednesday, December 7.

Candidates.—C. Percy (U.), H. Craig (L.).

W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Williams.

Result in 1910.—L., 4,487; U., 3,993.—Maj., 494.

This constituency includes North Shields, Whitley Bay, and Cullercoats. Members have been working hard to have the W.S.P.U. Election posters well displayed, and as far as possible the house-to-house distribution of election addresses has been undertaken.

WEST SALFORD.

Polling Day, Saturday, December 3.

Candidates.—G. B. Raine (U.), Sir G. Agnew (L.), Ben Tillet (S.).

W.S.P.U. Committee Rooms.—17, St. Anne's Square.

W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Brackenbury.

Result in 1910.—L., 6,216; U., 5,239.—Maj., 977.

Members are reminded that to-morrow is polling day, and large numbers of women are required to act as pickets at the various polling stations. Will all who have an hour to spare call at the Committee Rooms?

WILTS.

Organiser.—Miss Annie Kenney, 57, Queen's Road, Clifton.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Katharine Abraham, 2, Estcourt Street, Devizes.

Local members are displaying posters, selling papers, and distributing literature in the constituencies, and helpers are needed in West Wilts, the member for which, Sir J. Fuller, is a strong Liberal and anti-Suffragist.

YORK.

Office.—M. Cony Street.

Organiser.—Miss Kay-Jones, Hawthorne Lodge, Bishopthorpe.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Coulton, 64, Nunthorpe Road.

Tuesday, Dec. 6.—Assembly Rooms, At Home, Lady Isabel Margeson, Miss Adela Pankhurst, 3.30 p.m.; Ship, 44 Home, Chair: Mrs. Holmes, evening.

WHAT THE PRESS SAYS.

DAILY MAIL.

The proceedings at Bow Street Police Court will surprise and alarm the vast majority of law-abiding citizens. It has been their pride in the past that British justice is impartial and unwavering, knowing no consideration for persons, creeds, or politics. All this is being rapidly changed by an unwarranted and indefensible extension of the Home Secretary's powers. By custom and precedent the Home Secretary has the right to modify sentences after they have been pronounced. But never before has the holder of that office intervened to forbid the prosecution of offenders who have been arrested by the police in the discharge of their duty. Never before has he interfered to stop the course of justice in the case of serious and repeated offences. Mr. Churchill's new departure is all the graver because it is the political act of a political officer, who has paralysed the magistrate on the bench and the police in the streets, and because it is so evidently calculated to subvert the momentary interests of the Government. Such proceedings are calculated at once to stimulate disorder and to bring the law into utter contempt. But the most serious feature of all is that the law of the land should be set aside by the caprice of an autocrat at the Home Office, and that he should arbitrarily decide who is to suffer and who is to go free. The consequences of this irresponsible meddling are mischievous in every way. Innocent persons who happened to be arrested have not been allowed to clear their character. The danger to public safety will be great if the police are allowed to seize some 100 or 150 prisoners whenever there is a disturbance, detain them for a night, and then come forward and say that no charge will be made. Such a state of affairs could hardly exist even in Russia. If no prosecutions are henceforward to take place in these cases, then clearly there must be no arrests. Ministers must be left to settle their differences with these irascible ladies in bouts of fist-cuffs and scratching, while the police look on and the nation reflects upon the peril of entrusting autocratic powers to a mere politician.

CHURCH TIMES.

It is unfortunate, of course, for Mr. Churchill that his colleague, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, frustrates all his efforts at peacemaking by goading the masses against the classes and arousing the worst passions of the multitude. . . . What with incitements to violence from one Cabinet Minister and the exhibition of futile incapacity on the part of another, the Government of the country seems to be in a poor way indeed. Perhaps a change is to be desired. We might get better, we certainly could not get worse, Ministers.

THE WORLD.

The vulgar, commonplace person may be tempted to put his tongue in his cheek when he refers to the "best friends" of Mr. Churchill in Wales and to the suffering Suffragettes who so deliberately sought to violate the laws, and suggest that the action of the Home Secretary was not dictated by altruistic feeling, but with a very shrewd and Churchillian eye on the polling booths. . . . It must be very disturbing to our Home Secretary to find himself so terribly misunderstood.

The Osborne judgment has taken place during the recess. The Bill for the Enfranchisement of Women has won support from leading men on both sides of the House. The unfranchised women press their view that their unrepresented condition had better be considered before the liberties of the Hereditary House are curtailed. The Government have admitted, and the Press has said it to them, that their importunity is a factor which cannot be ignored. These are some among the many reasons which have made the Government resolve on an early dissolution.—*The Scotsman*.

As is customary in these militant days when a Cabinet Minister goes campaigning, the streets surrounding the hall were barricaded, and nobody without a ticket for the meeting was allowed inside the railed-off area. Every constable in the borough police force was on duty, and each was carefully looking for 150 woman Suffragists who were believed to have left London for Hull. There was more of this fear of the women inside the hall. The Prime Minister had only spoken one sentence when the voice of a Suffragist exposed the vanity of the barricades, and of the elaborate system of checks and balances which had been passed to thwart the unconstitutional interrupter.

—*The Times*.

A correspondent writes:—I am glad to say yesterday (Friday) I obtained seven new subscribers to our paper. I have also posted twelve copies to unbelieved, and I pledge myself to give away six copies every week. I would like to give more, but am not in the position to do so, so will do all I can to get fresh subscribers."

CAN'T VOTE, BUT CAN BE ELECTION AGENT.

Mrs. Amberton-Pownall, who is spoken of as a clever organiser and popular with all classes, is acting as her husband's agent at Rotherhithe. Yet she is denied the right of a vote.

SEVENTY-FIVE WOMEN SENT TO PRISON.

The Chief Magistrate Severely Censures the Home Secretary.

THURSDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

As announced in last week's VOTES FOR WOMEN, Sir Albert de Rutzen, the Bow-street magistrate, had reserved from Wednesday the cases of 32 women and two men on whom he intended to pass judgment. He had also adjourned from Wednesday 20 other women whose cases had not been heard. Eighteen further arrests had also been made on Wednesday night. All these came before him on Thursday morning. The first cases to be taken were those adjourned.

Mr. Muskett again prosecuted, and Mr. A. E. W. Marshall watched the proceedings on behalf of the Women's Social and Political Union.

Sentences on Stone-Throwers.

A charge of window-smashing was preferred against Cecilia Wilcox, of Gateshead, who was stated to have thrown various articles to which messages were attached through the windows of the Western District Post Office, Wimpole Street. One of these bore the legend, "Who would be free himself must strike the blow." According to Mr. Henry Mann, sub-postmaster, the damage amounted to £3. The magistrate fined the defendant £5, damage £5, or in default one month.

Mrs. Howard Shaw was also sentenced to a fine of £5, or in default, one month.

Charges arising out of the attack upon the premises of Mr. John Burns on Tuesday night were next gone into. Elsie Schuster, Fanny Helliwell, Mary Aldham, Mildred Key, and Norah Black were each said to have been in a party of six who visited 37, Lavender Gardens at 8.15 on Tuesday evening. Each threw stones, doing 5s. worth of damage, and on two of the offenders nine and eleven stones were found respectively.

Miss Norah Black said: "This is the result of the treatment given to our peaceful deputation on Friday. These protests must be made. I was in Parliament Square on Friday, and I wished to show some objection to the treatment meted out to the women then." Miss Elsie Schuster and Miss Helliwell were fined 40s. and costs, or fourteen days, and the other three prisoners £5 and 5s. damage and costs, or one month. In all the cases the defendants declined to pay, and remained in custody. Edith Wingrove and Ethel Haslam, whose attack was not so effective, because nothing was broken, were fined 40s. and costs or fourteen days.

Miss Jessie Stephenson and Mrs. Kerwood were then placed in the dock. They were charged with breaking a pane of glass in the door of Mr. Herbert Samuel's house, but on its being found that Mrs. Kerwood had merely lent her shoe for the purpose of smashing the glass, and that she had done no actual damage, she was discharged. Miss Stephenson, who had broken the window, was sentenced to one month's imprisonment in default of paying a fine of £5. She left the dock protesting against the Government's attitude towards the Woman Suffrage Bill now before Parliament, and stating that her action had been committed "under great political provocation."

Miss MacRae, Miss Margaret Fison, Miss Ellison Gibb, Mrs. Edith Begbie, Miss Eliza Simmins, Mrs. Florence Farmer, Miss Fanny Radcliffe, Miss M. P. Linscott, and Mrs. Martin all pleaded guilty to throwing stones at Mr. Winston Churchill's house in Eccleston Square. Miss MacRae said that after the way in which the peaceful women's deputation had been treated on Friday there was nothing to do but to resort to militant measures. And Miss Fison said: "I want to say this: We were forced to make a protest. I want you to know that I am a law-abiding woman, but I have had to do this for political reasons. I am not in the habit of throwing stones through windows." They were all sentenced to fourteen days' imprisonment in default of paying a fine of £2.

The next to be brought up were Mrs. Mary Goodliffe (of Nottingham) and Mrs. Phillips, who were charged with breaking the windows of Sir Edward Grey's house at Queen Anne's Gate, and were sentenced to one month's imprisonment on refusing to pay a fine of £5. Both prisoners stated that they had acted from political motives. Mrs. Phillips stated: "I should like to say that I did it as a protest against the action of the Government against the women's movement for enfranchisement. I went on the peaceful deputation on Friday to the House of Commons and we were not received, and I saw then that some more effective protest would have to be made than that of going on a deputation and being knocked about by the police, who were obliged to do it, and I therefore went to the house of a Cabinet Minister to protest against the action of the Government."

Sir Albert de Rutzen, in reply, said: "We have nothing to do with politics here. We have to administer the law."

Mrs. Phillips: Is not the police court used as a political weapon against us?

The Magistrate: In no sense whatever that I am aware of. £5 and the cost of the damage, or a month.

The magistrate next proceeded to deal with the eighteen defendants who were arrested for obstructing the police near the House of Commons on Wednesday, and Miss Hilda Rowles was brought into the dock.

Mr. Muskett said that in accordance with his general instructions from the Home Secretary, which applied also to this fresh batch of cases, he offered no evidence against the defendants, who were merely guilty of obstruction. With reference to the woman who was then in the dock, he mentioned that she was before the Court on the previous day and discharged, and she seemed to have gone direct from the Court to create a fresh obstruction. However, his instructions for the moment were not in any way varied, and therefore he must act upon them.

Magistrate Censures Mr. Churchill.

The Magistrate: This practice, in my opinion, is simply an incentive to further violence.

Mr. Muskett: I have no opinion which I am entitled to express.

The Magistrate: That is my opinion.

Mr. Muskett: Otherwise I should do so very quickly.

Miss Rowles was discharged.

In pursuance of instructions Mr. Muskett then had called into the dock in succession Miss Alice Burton, Miss Olivia Jeffcott, Miss Grace Barber, Miss Christina Wilson, Miss Edith Granger, Miss Nora Balls, Miss Vera Wentworth, and Mrs. Goodliffe (Leicester).

He offered no evidence against them, and they were discharged.

Miss Dorothy Pethick was then brought into the dock. Mr. Muskett said that though she was only charged with obstructing the police in the execution of their duty in Old Palace Yard on Tuesday afternoon, November 22, 1910, yet in view of the evidence to be given in the case he had decided on his own responsibility to proceed against her.

A constable was called into the witness-box, and stated: "I was endeavouring to prevent another woman from breaking through the line of police, when the prisoner deliberately struck me in the face with her hand. She then kicked at me and knocked off my helmet."

Miss Pethick: I deny the charge in every respect except one. I deny that I kicked—

The Magistrate (to prisoner): Have you any question to ask the witness?

Miss Pethick: Yes. (To witness): Is it not true that I knocked your hat off after you had taken me very roughly by the throat?

Witness: No.

Miss Pethick: That is my recollection of things.

A second constable was then called in to give evidence, and said, "I saw her smack him in the face."

Miss Pethick: The officer arrested me and twisted my arm the whole way to the station.

Miss Pethick then went into the witness-box, and said:—

"I wish to say that the police were treating the women disgracefully. I deny absolutely that I kicked anyone or struck anyone in the face, and it was not until I saw a policeman grasp a woman by the throat that I knocked off his helmet, and I was then arrested. A constable twisted my arm as he took me to the police-station, and the inspector also tried to pinch my arm, and I said to him, 'I shall report you at the police-station if you behave like that.'"

Mr. Muskett: You committed an assault.

Miss Pethick: I did not kick—

Mr. Muskett: You knocked off his hat.

Miss Pethick: Yes, when I saw he was ill-treating a woman, but I deny—

Mr. Muskett: I don't care what you deny. You knocked the policeman's hat off. You committed an assault.

Mrs. Pankhurst Gives Evidence.

Miss Pethick then left the witness-box, and Mrs. Pankhurst, who had volunteered to give evidence, took her place, and in clear, ringing tones took the oath. There was a moment's silence as she stood there. Then, in answer to the clerk of the court, she said that she was in a motor-car at about half-past three on the previous afternoon opposite Palace Yard. "I saw first of all one group of women, who were being jostled about by policemen in Palace Yard. The motor-car proceeded opposite the door of St. Stephen's entrance."

The Clerk: The car you were in?

Mrs. Pankhurst: Yes. I saw another group of women who were being pushed along by a crowd of policemen if they did not move fast enough to please the constables.

The Magistrate: They were unwilling to go away?

Mrs. Pankhurst: They were unwilling to go away.

The Clerk: What else did you see?

Mrs. Pankhurst: Whenever a woman was separated from a group she was seized by a policeman. Then she was pushed back to the others—very roughly.

The Clerk: Did you see the prisoner?

Mrs. Pankhurst: I saw a number of women.

The Magistrate: Did you see the prisoner?

Mrs. Pankhurst: She was one of the group.

The Magistrate: You saw the group, but did you see her?

Mrs. Pankhurst: She was with the others.

The Magistrate: Did you see her?

Mrs. Pankhurst: No, I did not notice her particularly, but she was with the group of women whom I did see.

Mr. Muskett: You did not see the prisoner; your evidence is not relevant.

Mrs. Pankhurst: I will reserve my evidence as to what occurred when another woman was arrested, whom I noticed particularly, and who was treated with great violence.

The Clerk: Did you see anything further?

Mrs. Pankhurst: I saw a number of women taken into custody.

The Clerk: What else did you see?

Mrs. Pankhurst: I saw the whole number being taken to Cannon Row later on.

The Magistrate: Did you see this woman taken into custody?

Mrs. Pankhurst: She was taken with others into custody.

Mr. Muskett (suddenly jumping up): I object. You are here to give evidence as to certain charges of assault.

Mrs. Pankhurst: I take my orders from the magistrate.

Mr. Muskett: Yes, but I am interpreting the magistrate's ruling. You volunteered your evidence—

Mrs. Pankhurst (quietly turning to the magistrate): May I say, sir, that I saw the whole incident, and that I did not see one woman assault a policeman, though I saw many women assaulted by the police?

Mr. Muskett: I object.

The Magistrate: Did you see this woman assault the police?

Mrs. Pankhurst: I saw no woman assault the police.

The Magistrate: That is not an answer to my question. Did you see this woman?

"I did." The voice came from the side of the court, and as Mrs. Pankhurst left the witness-box Miss Pethick said, "I wish to call Mrs. Marshall."

"Did you see me arrested?" Miss Pethick asked the witness—"I did."

Miss Pethick: Did you see the circumstances?

Mrs. Marshall: I saw you being pulled about in a shameful way; so much so that I got out of the car and came up to where you were. I saw women being pushed about for no reason whatever.

Miss Pethick: Did you see me kick a policeman?

Mr. Muskett: That is not relevant.

Miss Pethick: That was in the charge. (Turning to witness.) Did you see me attempt to kick any policeman?

Witness: No, I did not.

Miss Pethick: Did you see me strike any policeman?

Witness: No, I did not.

Miss Pethick: Did you see me knock a policeman's hat off?

Mrs. Marshall: No, I did not.

Mr. Muskett: She admits that she did that.

Miss Pethick: Yes, I admit that I did that, but you did not see me do anything else?

Mrs. Marshall: No, I did not. I saw you being knocked about in a disgraceful way, so much so that I got down from my car and took the policeman's number.

Miss Pethick: I remember seeing the car.

The Magistrate: You were in the car with the last witness?

Witness: Yes.

The Magistrate: But you did not see the prisoner arrested.

Mrs. Marshall: I got out of the car and witnessed what was taking place.

The Magistrate: The last witness did not see what the prisoner did; you did not see her do anything either.

Mr. Muskett: Have you not been in this court before?

Mrs. Marshall: Yes. Has that anything to do with it?

Mr. Muskett: Were you not brought up here yesterday?

Mrs. Marshall: Yes; but what has that got to do with my being here as witness?

Mr. Muskett: A great deal.

Witness: I do not see that.

The Magistrate: You have admitted a great deal. You have brought two witnesses, one of whom did not see you arrested, and therefore cannot possibly know what you did. The next witness was in the same car, and apparently she did not see more than the first witness, Mrs. Pankhurst, and therefore did not see what you did when you were arrested. Two

constables have sworn to a fact, and that fact I have no reason to doubt. One says you struck him and the other saw you do it. There is no reason to doubt what they say. Your sentence is a fine of 14s., or in default fourteen days' imprisonment.

Miss Pethick: I understood that the charge was assault, sir, not obstruction.

The Clerk: The sentence is for obstruction.

Miss Pethick: This sort of procedure is a scandal. I shall go back to Leicester and get more women to revolt.

On the reassembling of the Court, after an adjournment which had lasted for a quarter of an hour, Mr. A. Marshall, the solicitor for the Women's Social and Political Union, said he wished to give an emphatic denial to the disgraceful statement which had appeared in the Press that policemen were on the sick list through bites and scratches received from the women Suffragists; the police made no such allegation. The Magistrate was understood to say that this sort of thing was the unfortunate result of the procedure adopted by the prosecution which had prevented the true facts from coming out.

The women whose cases had been tried on the previous day, but who had not received their sentences, were then brought into the court. The first to appear was Miss Lilias Mitchell, charged with obstruction, but against whom it was alleged that she had assaulted a policeman. She was sentenced to fourteen days' imprisonment in default of paying a fine of £2. On hearing this Miss Mitchell protested, saying that the charge was false, but the Magistrate merely told her that her case was disposed of, and she left the dock.

Mrs. Haverfield Sentenced.

Mrs. Haverfield's turn came next. In addressing her, Sir Albert de Rutzen said: Your case, Mrs. Haverfield, appears to be a little worse than the rest. When the constable intervenes and takes you into custody, you strike him in the face, and for a moment or two he is scarcely able to see you, and when you are charged you say that the next time you come you will come with a revolver. That is what you said. You are charged with assault. I fine you £5, or, in default, one month.

Mrs. Haverfield: May I say that my whole attitude is a protest against the way the police were instructed to treat our women on Friday. It was the most monstrous thing I have ever known, and when I say I will take a revolver I mean that I will carry on this agitation when I come out of prison with more vigour than ever. We shall carry our point, sir, with all respect to you. I am bound to make my protest.

Mrs. Patty Hall, Miss Ethel Slade, Miss Anderson Filshill, Miss E. M. Fagg, and other women were each sentenced to fourteen days' imprisonment in default of paying a fine of £2. In addressing Miss Anderson, the Magistrate said: You are one of those who, had you chosen to apologise to the policeman for having assaulted him, might have got off. Miss Anderson replied that she had not assaulted the constable, and that to have apologised for what she had not done would have been absurd. Miss Fagg said: I wish to make a statement. It is quite evident that this court is used as a political weapon against the women who are charged here. Yesterday, when I was brought up here, a second charge was brought against me: that of assault. To-day I am only charged with obstruction. I will not pay the fine; I will take the fourteen days. Miss Filshill absolutely denied having retaliated when assaulted by the police, and her back was turned to the witness when she was arrested.

Mrs. Massey and Mrs. Löwy, who had broken windows in Government offices in Whitehall, were each sentenced to one month's imprisonment in default of paying a fine of £5. Mrs. Massey, speaking on behalf of herself and Mrs. Löwy, said: "As mothers we considered it better to break a pane of glass worth but a few shillings than to give our bodies to be broken as on Friday."

Miss E. Bell, Nurse Evans, and Miss Dorothy Shallard were then brought in and sentenced to fourteen days' imprisonment in default of paying a fine of £2.

The next to be brought into the court was Mrs. Mary Clarke, a sister of Mrs. Pankhurst, who on being refused permission to see Mrs. Pankhurst in Cannon Row Police Station had sent a stone through the windows of that building. On being sentenced to a month's imprisonment, Mrs. Clarke said: "The real offenders are the Government, who deny justice and drive women to rebellion."

Miss Lucy Burns, Mrs. Streetfield, Mrs. Sanders, Miss Beatrice Jones, Mrs. Garvey Kelley, Mrs. Cousins, Miss Jessie Filshill, and Miss Allen were sentenced to one month's imprisonment. Mrs. Sanders asked why it was that the rioters of Tonypandy were allowed to do a great deal of damage and were not imprisoned.

while women, who were not nearly so violent, and whose actions were purely political, were sent to Holloway Gaol. Mrs. Cousins, who had come over from Ireland to take part in the deputation of Friday, 18th, said that she was proud to have taken a share in this fight for freedom.

Miss Grace Chappelow, Mrs. Fahey, and Miss Mabel Capper (who had been called some time before, but was not well enough to appear) were sentenced to fourteen days' imprisonment in default of paying a fine of £2.

The two men were then brought into the dock. James Denny was sentenced to pay a fine of 40s., or go to prison for fourteen days. Mr. Ford was bound over to keep the peace. This ended the proceedings for Thursday, but later in the day twenty-one more women were arrested for breaking windows.

THE PROCEEDINGS ON FRIDAY.

Two Months Without the Option of a Fine.

Miss A. Burton, who had broken a pane of glass at the Home Office to the value of 10s., was the first to appear. It was stated that she had broken the window with a stone wrapped up in a paper bearing the words, "A protest against the barbaric treatment of tax-paying women by the Government." She said that though she had smashed the window she had no mania for window-breaking; her action was a protest against the Government's treatment of the Women's Enfranchisement Bill. Mr. Muskett then read out a list of previous charges against the prisoner, including one conviction, and that in July of last year, when, with a number of others, her case had been dropped after the decision arrived at in the High Court with regard to the right to petition, and that of the 23rd of this month, when no evidence had been brought against her and she had been discharged. The Magistrate then said to Miss Burton: "You have been here time after time. You disorderly women have been treated with an amount of leniency which one can hardly understand. You were here the day before yesterday, and, in spite of that, you go back and do the same sort of thing. How on earth you women can think you are furthering your cause by this disorderly conduct I, for my part, absolutely cannot understand. Your sentence is two months' imprisonment."

Miss Florence Spong was next brought into the dock and charged with wilfully damaging a pane of glass at the Local Government Board offices, to the value of 5s. She admitted having done this, saying that her motive was a political one. As in the case of Miss Burton, the previous charges against the prisoner were read out, including two which had never been proceeded with. She was then sentenced to two months' imprisonment.

Miss Stevenson, Miss Webb, and Miss Kathleen Houston pleaded guilty to damaging to the amount of 50s. four panes of glass in the offices of the Local Government Board, and said they had done this as a protest against the attitude of the Government towards the Conciliation Bill.

Sir Albert de Rutzen replied: "We have nothing whatever to do with politics here. All we have to do is to see that the law is obeyed, and one would have thought that respectfully

dressed women like you would have taken care that you did obey the law, and have shown in some kind of way that you were fitted for that for which you are asking. Two months' imprisonment."

Miss Ethel Ball, who had broken a pane of glass at the Home Office as a protest against the unjust sentence of imprisonment which her mother had received the day before, was next brought into the dock. The Magistrate said that on account of her youth he would deal more leniently with her, and sentenced her to one month's imprisonment.

Miss Wurrle and Miss Vera Wentworth were both charged with breaking a pane of glass at the Local Government Board, but on its being found that only one window had been broken, and that it was Miss Wurrle who had thrown the stone, the charge against Miss Wentworth was withdrawn. Miss Wurrle was given two months.

Answering to a charge of having broken a pane of glass in the door of Cannon Row Police Station, Mrs. Nina Dear said that her action was the outcome of her indignation at having been arrested and discharged twice during that week, when there had been no evidence brought against her. In spite of the fact that Mrs. Dear had been discharged on each of these occasions, the Magistrate, in addressing her, said: "You have been here twice during the past week, and, in spite of all that happened to you, you made up your mind to go out and take part in attempting to wreck a public building. You know this is not allowed, and you go out intentionally breaking laws. Your sentence is two months."

Miss Sanbourne, Miss Lewis, Miss Irene Tillard, and Miss I. Potbury were charged with breaking glass to the value of £4 15s. at the Colonial Office. They all pleaded guilty, saying that their action was a protest against the treatment of the women's deputation on Friday, November 18. They added that they had carefully selected windows in the rooms of which no one was present. One of the prisoners stated that when the charge was made the official had said: "The damage was £2, but as these things are getting a nuisance put it down at £4 15s." The Magistrate said it made no difference and sentenced them to two months' imprisonment each.

Miss K. Streatfield pleaded guilty to having broken windows in the House of Lords, and stated: "I wish to say that the last occasion on which I was here ought not to be brought against me as I was discharged without a charge being brought against me. That ought not to count as an occasion. If I had been guilty I ought to have been sent to prison; my being discharged proved that I was in the right. I also wish to say that my action was a very small protest against the assault which has been made on the bodies of my comrades during the last five years, and I think it is a very small protest indeed. The Magistrate: This sort of thing must be stopped. Two months." Miss Streatfield: That won't stop it.

Miss Henrietta Barwell, Nurse Pitfield, and Miss Wilson were the next to be brought into the dock. They were charged with having broken the windows of the War Office. Nurse Pitfield said: "We have no other alternative, but to turn to militant action. It is Mr. Asquith and his colleagues who ought to be in the dock." In each case when previous charges were read out those of the 18th and the 22nd, which had not been proceeded with, were included. The women protested against this. Their remonstrances were ignored, however, and the prisoners were sentenced to two months' imprisonment. Nurse Pitfield said: "There is only one way we can be free; that is, by revolt."

Mrs. Marshall and Miss Fussell were then charged with having thrown missiles and smashed windows at Mr. Winston Churchill's house at 33, Eccleston Square. As Mrs. Marshall's stone had not broken the window, but had merely hit a wall, the charge of wilful damage was in her case withdrawn. When previous charges against her were read out, a solicitor appearing on her behalf said: "I desire to protest against Mr. Muskett proving acquittals as though they were convictions. Mr. Muskett protested, saying he had not done so. The Magistrate: He has not influenced my decision. She was ordered to pay a fine of 40s., or to go to prison for fourteen days. The prisoner, of course, chose the latter alternative. Miss Fussell, whose stone it was which smashed the window, was sentenced to two months' imprisonment without the option of a fine. Mrs. Marshall protested strongly against this, saying that though the unproven charges of the 18th and the 22nd had been cited against her, Miss Fussell was a first offender, and that to give her so long a sentence was scandalous.

Miss Ada Wright, whose brave conduct on Friday, November 18, made her one of the heroines of that day, and Miss Joan Dugdale, daughter of Commander Dugdale, pleaded guilty to having thrown stones at the residence of Mr. Lewis Harcourt in Berkeley Square. No damage was done to the building, Miss Wright having purposely misdirected her aim, as had she carried out her original intention of smashing the fanlight above the door she might have injured a footman whom she saw standing in the doorway. Explaining her action Miss Wright said: "I pay taxes just the same as Mr. Harcourt does. All my life I have worked for the good of the community. I am as good a citizen as Mr. Harcourt, and it is behaving like a dog in the manger to act as Mr. Harcourt and other men do. The treatment which they mete out to women who have given their lives to the community will disgrace the name of England for ever." In answer to Miss Dugdale's statement that stone-throwing was a time-honoured method of making political protests by those who had no votes, Sir Albert de Rutzen said it was the first time he had ever heard that was the case, and sentenced Miss Wright to 40s., or fourteen days, and Miss Dugdale to two months, without the option of a fine.

Later in the day, Mrs. M. P. Goodman was fined £5, or sent to prison for one month, for breaking the windows of No. 10, Downing Street, with a stick.

OMISSION.

Our attention has been drawn to the fact that last week we omitted the name of Miss Charlotte Haig, who was one of the first women to be arrested on November 16.

THE SENTENCES.

The results may be summarised as follows:—

Fourteen Days.

The following prisoners were sentenced on Thursday, November 24, at Bow Street, to a fine of 40 shillings or 14 days' imprisonment. They elected to go to prison, and they will therefore be released on Wednesday, December 7, at 8 a.m. A special breakfast will be given in their honour at the Criterion Restaurant at 9 a.m. Tickets, from 2s. 6d., can be obtained from the Ticket Secretary, W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

Miss Armstrong.
Mrs. Edith Begbie.
Miss Capper.
Miss Grace Chappelow.
Mrs. Farmer.
Mrs. Fahey.
Miss H. M. Fagg.
Miss Margaret Fison.
Miss H. Filahill.
Miss Billson Gibb.
Mrs. Howard Hall.
Mrs. Hawkins.
Miss Ethel Haslam.
Miss P. Hellwell.
Nurse Hutchinson.

Miss Janet Green.
Miss M. Left.
Miss M. P. Zinco.
Miss Georgina Macrae.
Mrs. Beatrice Martin.
Dr. M. McKenzie.
Miss Lilias Mitchell.
Miss Dorothy Pethick.
Miss Peace.
Miss Fanny Radcliffe.
Miss Eliza Schuster.
Miss Eliza Simmins.
Miss Ethel Slade.
Miss Edith Wingrove.

One Month.

The following were sentenced to a fine of £5 and to pay the cost of the window, or to one month's imprisonment, and will be released on Friday, December 23:—

Miss M. Allen.
Mrs. Aldham.
Mrs. Ball.
Miss Norah Black.
Miss A. Bell.
Miss Burns.
Mrs. Clarke.
Mrs. Cousins.
Nurse Evans.
Miss J. Filahill.
Mrs. Garvey Kelly.
Miss Mildred Key.

Mrs. May Goodliffe.
Mrs. B. Haverfield.
Miss Winifred Jones.
Mrs. Lowy.
Mrs. Massey.
Mrs. Julia Phillips.
Miss Shallard.
Miss Jessie Stephenson.
Miss Strathfield.
Mrs. B. Sanders.
Mrs. Howard Shaw.
Miss Daisy Wilson.

Discharged.

The following were discharged:—

Mrs. Jane Atkinson.
Miss Nora Ball.
Miss Grace Barber.
Mrs. Margaret Brown.
Miss Alice Burton.
Mrs. Marguerite Charter.
Mrs. Lily Crow.
Mrs. Marie Goodliffe.
Miss Edith Granger.

Miss Olivia Jeffcott.
Miss Kitty Marion.
Miss Hilda Howles.
Miss Alice M. Walters.
Miss Hilda Webb.
Miss Vera Wentworth.
Miss Christina Wilson.
M.B.
Miss Ida Wright.

Friday, Nov. 25: 14 Days.

The following prisoners were sentenced on Friday to pay a fine of 40 shillings or to 14 days' imprisonment, and will therefore be released on Thursday, December 8:—

Miss Joan Dugdale.
Mrs. Marshall.

Miss Ada Wright.

One Month.

The following were sentenced on Friday to one month's imprisonment without the option of a fine, and will be released on the morning of Saturday, December 24:—

Miss Ethel Ball.

Mrs. Mary Penelope Goodman.

Miss Emily Wilding Davison was also sentenced to one month's imprisonment on Wednesday, November 30 (see page 152), and will be released on December 27.

Two Months without Option.

The following were sentenced to two months' imprisonment without the option of a fine, and will be released in the second week of January.

Miss Henrietta Barwell.
Miss Alice Burton.
Mrs. Nina Dear.
Miss Fussell.
Miss Kathleen Houston.
Miss G. Lewis.
Nurse Pitfield.
Miss Isabelle Potbury.

Miss Florence Sanborne.
Miss Florence Spong.
Miss Streetfield.
Miss Eva Stephenson.
Miss Irene Tillard.
Miss Hilda Webb.
Miss Christina Wilson, M.B.
Miss Evelyn Wurrle.

Discharged.

Miss Vera Wentworth.

The Prisoners.

Nurse Evans, who was sentenced to one month's imprisonment, has been released as the result of a hunger strike. She reports that she was treated very badly from the outset, that the dress she was wearing was taken away by force, and that she was left without it for four hours, after which it was restored, that nothing but prison food was given to her, that she refused to eat it and continued the hunger strike until Monday morning, when she was discharged.

Mrs. Haverfield and Miss Mildred Key were released after one day's imprisonment as their fines were paid without their knowledge or consent. Mrs. Pankhurst paid the fine of Mrs. Hawkins, whose husband's leg was broken at Bradford, and who had to go home to look after the children. A relative paid the fine of Dr. McKenzie, as her father was dangerously ill in Scotland. Miss Dorothy Pethick's fine was paid by Dr. Bennett, of Leicester, without her consent.

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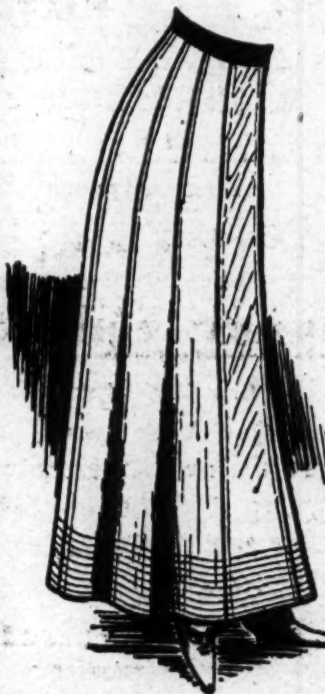
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AVE ITALIA, REGINA TERRARUM!

To open the volume of Mr. Zangwill's Essays* upon Italian History and Art, recently published under the title of "Italian Fantasies," is to escape in imagination from the chill, grey fogs of November in our northern lands, and to enter by "the true gates of heaven" into a world of light and colour. "Gold and marble and sardonyx, lapis lazuli, agate and alabaster, porphyry, jasper and bronze, these (he says) were the least of my spoils." How the words make music striking across these days of twilight and gloom.

O sacredness of sky and sun! Receive me, ye priests of Apollo! I am for lustrations and white robes, that I may kneel in the dawn to the Sun-God. For what choking Christian cities have we exchanged the lucid Pagan hill-towns? We have sacrificed our glad sense of the world miracle to worldly miracles of loaves and fishes. Grasping after the unseen, we have lost the divinity of the seen.

One wants to fill all the column's space with the actual words transcribed from the pages of the book. Draw the curtains, turn your back upon the scene that environs you, close the shutters upon the outward eye, look inward and you shall see "those high paths hung between mountain and sea."

the green wild grass, with its dots of daisy and dandelion, cactus and asphodel overhanging from the mountain side, figs, olives, vines, sloping in terraced patches to the sea, which through bronze leafy tunnels shows blue and sparkling at the base of contorted cliffs. A woman's singing comes up from the green and grey tangle of gnarled trunks, and mingles with the sweet piping of the birds. A brown man moves amongst the furrows. A sybil issues from the pass, leaning on her staff, driving a pair of goats, her head swathed in a great white handkerchief.

Glory of the sun and earth, history, philosophy, art criticism, fantasy and dream—all these things are found by turns in these fascinating pages.

To me most interesting of all, perhaps, is the chapter entitled "The Carpenter's Wife"—a vision of the imagination that fell upon the writer as he toilfully made the ascent from Vicenza to the Church of Our Lady of the Mountain! That Pilgrim's Way—I know something very like it, near Varese, with its frescoed story of the Passion and the Cross.

But in this case it is the Madonna who is glorified at every stage. Near the summit a fresco represents the Virgin in all her radiant beauty, appearing to an old peasant woman. Beneath it, a bench waiting for the weary traveller and the dream! In the dream there appears the vision of a peasant woman, with face sorely lined, the shimmer of tears in her large olive-tinted eyes—"a woman worn with the burden of child-bearing after the sad fashion of Eastern women."

And lo, the scene is laid not in Vicenza, but in Nazara, not in Italy, but in Galila. The woman is in grief because the enmity of all the little world she knows is directed against her first-born—Yeshua the heretic, Yeshua the innovator, who sets at nought the traditions of his family and people, and is bringing disgrace and shame upon the lowly village home; Yeshua, of whom even the father, even his brothers and sisters, speak with anger and scorn.

As she is preparing the Passover in the inner room, word comes to her that Yeshua has committed a fresh outrage upon conventionality by driving the money-changers out of the Temple with a scourge. "They will kill him," she cries. She moves towards the door. Her husband stops her. "Whither goest thou?" "To Jerushalaim!" "Doth he not teach his followers to hate his father and mother?" And the mother knows but one answer, "It is my first-born."

And the carpenter shrugs his shoulders as he says, "Blessed art thou, O Lord, who hast not made me a woman!"

Readers of VOTES FOR WOMEN will remember the chapter entitled "St. Giulia and Female Suffrage," so generously given in advance by Mr. Zangwill to this paper last April. To quote again is irresistible:—

To-day our St. Giulia, in revolt against a social order founded on prostitution and sex-inequality, demand political rights as leverage for a nobler society, and, despite the advice of kindly rulers, they are as ready as in the seventh century to be martyred for their faith, though they have replaced the passivity of St. Giulia by measures of aggression. Guarento foresaw the modern militant type when he drew those charming female angels with red and gold shields and long lances, and wings of green and gold, who stand on clouds—"suffragette" seraphs, they seem to me. You may see a battalion of them in the Museo Civico of Padua, filling a whole corridor, like a procession in the lobby of Westminster.

Mr. Zangwill out of his golden store has woven many a thread of beauty into the lives of the men and women of his generation; and women who are working out new ideals of life and character owe him peculiar thanks for the inspiration and intellectual stimulus that has been his special gift to the Woman's Movement.

E. P. L.

* "Italian Fantasies." By Israel Zangwill. (Heinemann, 8s. 6d.)

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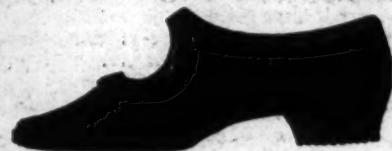
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ROBERT.

By Marguerite Charter.

I am always interested in Robert. You see, I have in so many different places, and on so many different occasions, crossed swords with him, so to speak, that I have only to glance at him and I know just what to expect from him and what he expects from me. I do not disappoint him, for, as every woman knows, a disappointed man is not a pleasant companion to take a-walking, and as it usually means "a walk down Cannon Row when Robert and I come to grips, I take care to get on good terms at once.

Well, one would think that in such a mêlée as that of Friday last there would be little or no time for the study of Robert's peculiarities, and that is where the average observer makes a big mistake, for a Suffragette convinced of the justice of her cause is quite the coolest and calmest thing I have ever known. She takes me back to the operation theatre I frequented in my youth, and reminds me of the surgeons I saw there—men who knew how much depended on their own individual work, men who knew that nothing in the way of sentiment or nerves must be allowed to render their work ineffectual. To put it shortly, the Suffragette knows her job, and does not allow anything or anybody to stand in her way, and this is precisely where Robert comes in.

One immediately takes his measure, and one is polite, sarcastic, or frankly rude according to the case one is dealing with. It is "up to" him to turn you back; it is "up to" you to go on; here your wit is in immediate conflict with his usually great physical strength.

Whether wit or strength wins, the interest in Robert remains. To me, he is always a child, as interesting and as varied as all the other children. Sometimes kindly and gentle, almost fatherly, and a great giver of good advice—this is a type that sympathises with you, agrees you ought to have the vote, and would, if it were possible, oblige you by conducting you into Mr. Asquith's presence and see to it that you had your innings undisturbed. All the same, he thinks our tactics all wrong, and is quite sure that if we went on in a really lady-like way we would soon get what we want. He is very surprised when told that women have been most "lady-like" in their method of demanding the vote for the last fifty years, and soon you have him admitting that "your heads" are screwed on the right way.

Then there is the type of Bobby whose dignity is wounded the moment his authority is ignored. He is usually quite a youngster, a recruit in fact, and mostly by his bright and shining armour and his easily ruffled temper do you know him; your refusal to turn back is a personal affront to him, and should you, greatly daring, presume to touch his new belt—a thing I always do, it saves your falling in the rush—he "sees red" and hits out. I do not blame him over-much—he will learn—and we see to it that his "higher" education begins on the way to the station. This lad usually charges you gravely with "violent assault," and it is a perfect joy to watch the experienced man who admits you cleverly handling your little laddie, bringing things to the bed-rock and sorting out of the chaos a mere charge of obstruction.

And then there is another type, one I greatly dislike. He is usually a very big man, and I feel certain he is the husband of a very little woman who possesses a very sharp tongue. His experience with the sex has been so unfortunate, and his subjection at home is so complete, that when a Suffragette looms in sight his cup of joy runs over. He knows that he may do with one not so much what he would like, but what he can, and he greets one with an indescribable leer, and unless one smartly takes the attitude which one may feel sure the little woman at home would take one is in for a rough time. No Suffragette turns her back on a man of this type. She knows that he will get in that knee punch that is not very pleasant. I always call this type the Uniformed Hooligan, but in brutality he is run very close by the plain-clothes man; they have both reduced arm-twisting and the maiming of thumbs to a fine art, and however quiet one's behaviour they are adept in finding excuses for a display of their special talents.

Happily the cruel ones are exceptions.

I end, as I began, by saying that for the greater part, Robert is to a thinking woman only a child. She finds some vicious, some kind and reasonable, others cowardly and cruel; others, brutal, think anything weaker than themselves fair game. There are also liars, and I think the authorities encourage them unconsciously by the attitude they themselves take up towards accused persons.

Much kindness was shown to the arrested women by officials inside Cannon Row and at Bow Street, and one is glad to put one's gratitude on record; but I found no dignity anywhere except in the attitude of the presiding magistrate, and in the beautiful loyalty and unflinching courage of the militant women themselves.

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9' 2" x 6' 1"	£6 6 0	£4 17 6
9' 3" x 7' 10"	£8 8 0	£6 6 0
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11' 11" x 9' 4"	£12 12 0	£9 9 0
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12' 3" x 10' 0"	£13 19 6	£10 10 0
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VOTES FOR WOMEN

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1910.

"WE ARE NOT HOTTENTOTS."

But the hour has struck. Something is going to happen, and that soon. Woman has outlived the days of her servitude. She has outgrown and outworn her bonds. If they are not loosened now, she will burst them. Evolution or Revolution! Which is it to be? That is the question that is up against the Government. It is for them to make the choice that other Governments in other days have been forced to make. Will they stand with the wise, or fall with the obstinate? Theirs is the responsibility. Theirs is the decision. Ours to ask the question. Theirs to answer it. Evolution or revolution?—VOTES FOR WOMEN, Oct. 14, 1910.

Evolution or Revolution? The answer has come. The Government have given it. The Woman's Movement for political emancipation has become a revolution. Who is to blame? Not the women who for fifty years have conducted a constitutional agitation for political liberty greater than any constitutional agitation ever carried on in the past. Not the men who, to their honour, are fighting by their side against gross injustice in high places.

The sole responsibility rests with the Prime Minister and the members of the present Cabinet who have belied all the elementary principles of Constitutional Government, who have ignored the greatest Constitutional agitation for reform that has ever been known in this country. It rests with those politicians who have systematically suppressed the truth by the policy of misrepresentation and distortion of facts and by the almost equally dishonest policy of silence. It rests with those who, in the interest of party politics, have deliberately closed down the Press with regard to this question. It rests with the Ministers of the King, who have turned a deaf ear to the appeal of justice and reason. It rests with the Home Secretary and his confederates, who have introduced Russian methods of police persecution into this country, and have stooped to the most dishonourable and cruel means in an unscrupulous attempt to keep in subjection one-half of the people that comprise the British nation. It rests with those who, regarding women as something less than human beings, have used weapons of repression hitherto deemed only applicable to slaves.

Mr. Asquith and the members of his Cabinet have broken every law and every tradition of constitutional Government. On the very day that women, assembled in Caxton Hall, sent a peaceful deputation to the Prime Minister to urge the right of taxpaying women to possess a voice, through elected representatives, as to the public expenditure of the revenues, he not only did grave bodily injury and hurt upon those delegates, through his emissaries, the police, but he added further insult to this injury by saying in effect to women from his place in the House of Commons: "Not only do I refuse you the right to elect representatives, but, in future, I order you to maintain men's representatives by enforced taxation."

Charles I. in his compulsory levy of Ship money did nothing more arbitrary than this. And he lost his head for it.

Moreover, Charles I. was upheld by his belief in the creed of the "Divine Right of Kings."

Mr. Asquith and his colleagues profess to believe in nothing short of full representative Government. In the

words of Mr. Lloyd George, applied to the peers, they are "sinning against the light." Consider the words of Mr. Winston Churchill spoken at Bradford last Saturday.

We are a free people. We have the right to vote. We are not aboriginal subjects. We are not Hottentots. We are not children in schools. Do what your fathers did: Move with the age; march with the times; strike down the rude barriers that stand in the way. The hereditary veto on finance and legislation must be swept away.

What about the hereditary veto of male dominance? Have finance and legislation nothing to do with taxpaying women?

The ears of women tingle at the words, "We have the right to vote. We are not aboriginal subjects. We are not Hottentots. We are not children in schools." They are a deliberate veiled insult to voteless women. Have we water instead of blood in our veins? Are we slaves to be taunted with impunity? Are we not flesh and bone of our fathers even as men; are men not made of the substance of their mothers even as we are? Slavish indeed should we be in spirit, shamed and dishonoured and disgraced as human beings, if we could abjectly submit to the insulting refusal of the political status of "a free people." Never let it be said that women of British name and descent were so tamed by brutal handling that they chose submission and humiliation rather than revolt!

Let us thank God they have chosen revolt, and have thus vindicated their blood and race. Women have chosen revolt. And men too. Seventy women are in prison to-day. What for? Because having suffered violence without retaliation last Friday, they were not prepared to act wholly on the defensive on the following Tuesday. Because some women saw those weaker than themselves being assaulted without offering resistance and avenged their suffering by a blow. And others adopted in a modified form the protest readily practised by men in revolt for comparatively flimsy and trivial reasons, and threw stones to the destruction of Government property. It was not due to chance that these women injured nobody. They waited till evening, so that they might select those windows that were dark, a proof that the rooms behind them were not tenanted.

Why did they choose this form of protest? Mrs. Massy, in the police-court, speaking for herself and for Mrs. Löwy, a mother of eight children, gave the reason: "As mothers we consider it better to make our protest by breaking a pane of glass worth but a few shillings than to give our own bodies to be broken again as they were on Friday." Let those words sink down in the minds of men who talk sentiment about the sacredness of motherhood, as well as into the hearts of those who really honour women!

Men have been roused. Men have taken their place once and for all beside women in the fighting ranks of the soldiers of liberty. As a result one man to-day is in hospital with a broken knee and a fractured leg—a working man—the husband of a working woman in prison for her protest. What offence brought upon him this brutal punishment? He had dared to interject an appropriate remark during Mr. Churchill's speech at Bradford. Another man has had his teeth knocked out. Another is suffering with hæmorrhage from bruised lungs.

One man is in the remand prison at Brixton Gaol. He attempted to strike Mr. Churchill with a dog whip. He called him a cur. Why? Because he had seen with his own eyes the organised brutality ordered by the Home Secretary, and practised upon defenceless women by police in uniform and by police disguised in plain clothes. But that was not all. There was a lower depth of meanness and cowardice still. He had read in the papers Mr. Churchill's disgraceful slander upon honoured and honourable women. Mr. Churchill, from his place of immunity in the House of Commons, brought a public charge against women of "biting and scratching," an allegation which he knew to be absolutely false, for which he had no shred of justification, for which there was not a rumour or vestige of evidence. The man is indeed a cur who for purposes of spite defames women. Honest men have always held that nothing but corporal punishment was fit for that kind of liar.

In spite of the violence we have suffered, in spite of hospital and prison, there is joy and gladness in this movement to-day as there never has been before. The song of triumph is in our ears. We march forwards to its music. Never were we so strong, never so sure. New members, new sympathisers are joining us every day. Workers are full of zeal. We have tasted power. We know our own might and the weakness of the enemy. All along the line we are winning. Every fighter in the army has the words of Hannibal, who crossed the Alps, graven upon the heart: "I will find a way or make one."

Emmeline Pethick Lawrence.

HECKLING CABINET MINISTERS.

By Christabel Pankhurst, LL.B.

On the subject of the Woman Suffrage movement it seems impossible for a Cabinet Minister to "open his mouth without putting his foot in it," and many are the indiscretions into which Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Winston Churchill in particular have fallen. The latest of these indiscretions comes from the last-named Minister. Infuriated by the public-spirited protests which members of the Men's Political Union for Women's Enfranchisement have recently made at his meetings, Mr. Churchill, at Lambeth last Monday, made a bitter attack upon these men champions of the women's cause. He denounced them as "These persons who have come treacherously into our midst to disturb our meetings with deliberate intent—probably paid for their services." "These systematic, deliberate, cold, calculated, money-fed attempts to break up meeting after meeting have," he declared, "the effect of robbing the masses of the people of the essential safeguard of free government, the right to conduct public meetings where the speaker is in some responsible position in the Government of the country and makes a plain statement to his fellow-citizens, and where any man is entitled to make a reasonable or sharp interjection."

By the concluding words of this tirade, Mr. Churchill has cut the ground from under his own feet, because it is precisely for making "reasonable and sharp interjections" on the subject of Woman Suffrage that men, and women too, have countless times been violently ejected from his meetings. What could be more reasonable, logical, and appropriate than the interjections made by Suffragists at Mr. Churchill's Bradford meeting on Saturday? "One great question," said Mr. Churchill, "awaits solution—" "And that," said a voice, "is Woman Suffrage!" The interrupter was ejected. "Lord Lansdowne," said Mr. Churchill, "has been complaining of me—" "And the women are complaining of you, too, you scoundrel," said a voice. The interrupter was ejected. "What can we do?" asked Mr. Churchill. "Give Votes to Women!" came the answer. The interrupter was ejected. Well might a member of the audience ask at this point (he also was ejected), "Why is every man thrown out who puts a question about Votes for Women, I should like to know?"

Again, the man whose intervention evoked Mr. Churchill's abuse at Lambeth was guilty of nothing more than saying, "Certainly not the women, sir." Contrast the unrighteous indignation felt by Mr. Churchill and his partisans at the interjections of Suffragists with the triumphant rejoicing of the Liberal newspapers when Liberals interrupt and disturb Unionist meetings. Among the headlines which have appeared on this subject in the Liberal Press one remembers the following:—"Short Shrift for Tory Twaddle," "The Voice in Form." Interruptions by Liberals are described in Liberal newspapers as "Awkward answers" and "Piquant replies," and with the utmost satisfaction these journals report that "Lord X. found that the Liberals present at his meeting were more than a match for him," that "there was continued interruption during the speech," that "three cheers for the Chinese!" and "Damn the consequences!" were frequent cries"; that "to the end Lord X. had to contend with constant interruptions, and it was with obvious relief that he resumed his seat," that "Lord M. had a lively experience with the 'Voice' that spoils his best periods with truth and sarcasm," that "Sir A.B. fared badly last night in an encounter with 'The Voice';" that "Captain Z. had the greatest difficulty in making himself heard;" that "when Mr. Y. attempted to speak a free fight took place in the body of the hall, followed by another in the gallery, and the meeting was hurriedly brought to a close."

In view of the open encouragement given by the Liberal Press to the disturbance of public meetings, it is hypocrisy on the part of Liberals, whether Ministers or others, to condemn the men and women who make interjections about Woman Suffrage at the meetings of Cabinet Ministers.

Mr. Churchill's advice to Suffragists to leave him in peace and hold meetings of their own, simply excites our ridicule. We shall certainly continue to hold meetings, but not for the purpose of interesting or impressing Cabinet Ministers, who have utterly and contemptuously disregarded the campaign of public meetings—of a magnitude probably without precedent—by which the Votes for Women cause is being served. These meetings fulfil several serious purposes, but they do not (though they certainly ought to do so) have any direct effect upon the policy of the Government. Therefore it proves necessary for Suffragists to go to meetings addressed by Ministers, in order to bring before them, in however distasteful a fashion, the need and importance of women's enfranchisement.

Mr. Churchill's suggestion that the members of the Men's Political Union who, at great risk to their bodily safety, take this action, are paid for it degrades himself alone. He fails absolutely in his attempt to snipe the reputation of the men who are so willing to sacrifice

themselves that justice may be done. What will the country think of a minister who forms so low a judgment of the motives of others? Mr. Churchill and Mr. Lloyd George (whose echo Mr. Churchill seems to be) have, by making this charge against the Men's Political Union, done much to arouse in the public mind a suspicion as to Liberal tactics which they will find it hard to allay. That suspicion is that the Liberal interruptions at Unionist and at Suffragist meetings, which are pointed to as a proof of great popular support of the Government, may be made by hirelings paid by the Liberal party.

We are in entire agreement with Mr. Churchill in thinking it an essential safeguard of free government that those holding a responsible position in the Government shall at public meetings make a plain statement as to their policy to their fellow citizens. This safeguard is destroyed if statements are made to "packed" meetings from which the women of the community, and as far as possible all men who are not partisans, are entirely excluded. If members of the audience who express one word of dissent are violently and summarily ejected, and are thus prevented from even voting against the resolution at the close of the proceedings; members of the Cabinet are reducing the public meetings to a farce by their tactics! Fear and distrust of the people is now the motto of the Liberal leaders. They dread the breath of public criticism as greatly as any Tsar could do.

By raising the cry of "Free speech in danger" they think to confuse the public mind, and to rouse the hostility of the people towards the advocates of political liberty for women. Even if free speech were temporarily in danger because of Suffragist action, we should hold it worth while to sacrifice for a time free speech at public meetings in order to win the infinitely more precious right of free speech at the ballot-box. But Mr. Churchill and the rest mistake, or pretend to mistake, the real nature of the right of free speech. That right is simply the right of the public to hold meetings without police interference. It is emphatically not the right of Ministers to say what they like at meetings without opposition or protest from the public. It is not the right of Ministers, first to misuse their power and mismanage public affairs, and then to stand on public platforms unchallenged.

Mr. Churchill attempts to excite sympathy by alleging that he is "singled out for violence." This cry comes strangely from the man by whose orders women were lately battered and maltreated at Westminster; from the man at whose meetings Suffragists, both men and women, have been savagely attacked and hurt. Members of the public who champion the Woman Suffrage cause can be insulted and have their bodies bruised, their limbs broken. But when a man, disregarding the crushing forces of the law arrayed against him, is moved by chivalry and just anger to do an act which shall punish these wrongs and cruelties, the Home Secretary emits a wail of protest, and flies for protection to the police.

Mr. Churchill's assertion that public men cannot allow their course of action to be changed by a rebellion is directly contrary to fact. The history of reform is the history of the surrender of tyrants to the just demands of the people expressed in a way that could not be withstood. Mr. Churchill's mock heroics will win him no sympathy. If he and his colleagues in the Government were standing for the people against wrong and oppression, then indeed we should admire them for maintaining their stand in spite of every kind of opposition. But the fact is that they are defending an ignoble prejudice and an obsolete injustice, and they must take the consequence of this action. The cure for rebellion is reform, not repression, and the methods of coercion to which the Government are now resorting will completely fail. The time will soon arrive when the Liberal leaders will bitterly regret their refusal to make the recent period of truce an opportunity for effecting a peaceful settlement of the Woman Suffrage question. As Mr. Churchill once said in another connection: "How often in the history of nations has the golden opportunity been allowed to slip away; how often have rulers and governments been forced to make in foul weather the very journey which they have refused to make prosperously in fair weather!" This is the situation in which the Government now find themselves, and, having deliberately entered into it, it is too late for them to complain.

TREASURER'S NOTE.

As a deep and heartfelt expression to the members of our brave deputation, gifts of money are pouring into the treasury. Letter after letter speaks of the honour felt by women and men of all classes and positions for those who to-day are in prison because of their protest against injustice and great wrong. And all these gifts of money will be turned to good account, in the first place by enabling the Union to meet in the General Election the nominees of the Liberal Government, the arch-enemy at the present time of human liberty, and to fight them with vigour. In the second place our increased funds will enable us, as soon as the General Election is over, to appoint new organisers and to open up fresh centres of organisation. In view of the present crisis, every effort is

being made by individuals to increase the membership and thus bring reinforcements to our army. One member during the past week has made twelve new members. Most of them when she opened the subject of "Votes for Women" were, to use her own words, "dead against it." They did not even understand the nature and terms of our demand. It needed but a short explanation of the matter to convert them. Our members are also following out the wishes of Mrs. Pankhurst and extending, each one individually, the circulation of the paper by gaining new subscribers. Three things are important to strengthen the hands of the fighters. Will those who are necessarily removed from the conflict remember them all—Members, Money, and Circulation of our Paper?

E. P. L.

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FIGHTING SPEECHES AT QUEEN'S HALL.

Extraordinary enthusiasm was the key-note of Monday's magnificent gathering in the Queen's Hall. Long before the meeting began the Hall was crowded, most of the members having taken the opportunity of bringing their "anti" friends to hear the leaders of the movement explain the momentous events of the last ten days. Loud cheers greeted the arrival of Mrs. Pankhurst, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Miss Christabel Pankhurst on the platform, and even the strangers present, moved by the enthusiasm of those around them, rose to their feet and cheered with a will. Nearly £500 was raised at this meeting. The gist of Mrs. Pethick Lawrence's speech will be found in the leading article, page 146.

MRS. PANKHURST.

After describing the events of last week, Mrs. Pankhurst said:—Can you wonder that women resented that insult by doing what other politicians in this country have done from time immemorial by damaging Government property? On the night before, I saw one woman bruised from head to foot, bruises she had got as a member of a peaceful deputation. I can only say, as the leader of that deputation and as one of the older women on that deputation, that I thank those women who resented the treatment they had received by acting in the way the women now in prison have done.

Speaking of the police arrangements in Parliament Square, Mrs. Pankhurst said: "I say without fear of contradiction from the Home Secretary that he had permeated that crowd with policemen in plain clothes, to hustle law-abiding and peaceful women who were going in an orderly way to the House of Commons. Imitating French police methods they sent agents provocateurs to incite the more disorderly members of the public to attack the women."

I know all of you want to know what is happening to those women in prison. I went to Holloway this morning to pay a prisoner's fine. It may seem an extraordinary thing for me to do, but the prisoner is Mrs. Hawkins, the wife of the man who is now in Bradford Infirmary suffering from a doubly fractured leg because he dared to ask Mr. Winston Churchill a question about Woman Suffrage. When Mrs. Hawkins, who is the wife of a working-man, decided to come up from Leicester as a delegate, her husband undertook to look after the home and the children for her while she was away, but, as you know, he did what he could to keep the cause going while she was in prison, and he suffered in consequence. It seems to me that the new "privileges" are rather more apparent to the ear than they are in fact. I understand that there is dissatisfaction amongst the women there, and that many protests are being made. We shall hear more about that later on, but I mention it in order that you may be prepared to discount anything you may hear or see in the Press stated on behalf of the Home Secretary as to the comfortable conditions in which women Suffragists are now kept in prison.

We cannot meet on this occasion without some thought of the future. What are we outside going to do to support those women who have made this great sacrifice for us, and who are now in prison? We are going to do our best to keep the Liberal out. We want volunteers, we want women to come into the fighting line and take the place of those speakers and workers—and those in the forefront of the battle are always the best speakers and workers. I do not think that those of you who have simply supported us passively up to now quite realise how much we women in this movement get for ourselves. I do not think you realise the sense of joy and freedom that we get, even when we are being battered about by the police. We know that we are fighting for the freedom of womanhood. It is not until you make up your mind to give yourself that you really find yourself. So we ask you to take part in this election and do your best to make it a decisive one. We want those women who have already worked to make up their minds to work still harder.

Reference has been made to the way in which the Press have reported our deputation. Well, there is only one way of bringing to the public a true knowledge of what occurred, and that is by selling our own paper, and we want volunteers for doing that work. If you do not wish to stand in the street selling the paper, there is another way in which you can extend its circulation. A lady told me the other day when I was up in the North of England that every week she went from house to house, selling copies of *VOTES FOR WOMEN*, and there were dozens of houses at which, week after week, the paper was bought. That seems to me a very good way of enlarging the circulation of our paper, and I recommend it to those women who do not feel that they are able to stand out in the street, but would like to do something to help forward this movement.

I want to say a word about the men who have come into this fight. We women have known what the little gallant band of men

have been doing for a very long time past, and we have been more grateful to them than I think perhaps they have realised. There have been times when we have felt very inclined to be bitter about the men of this country. We have asked, we older women, where were the men we had thought would rouse themselves when they saw women being treated like that? We thought when the first deputation took place that men would never stand that; but we found that men would stand a good deal where women were concerned, and some of us began to lose faith and grew very bitter, and I want as a woman to thank our men friends for having sweetened our hearts about men, for having done something to take the stigma off their sex where this movement is concerned. I believe that just as each one of those men probably did not understand at first, yet when they did understand felt it was their duty to come out and show people how they felt in the matter, so more and more men who did not at first understand will come forward, and in the end there will be not a mere handful of men, but there will be thousands upon thousands of men who will insist that bare justice shall be done to women, who are as much entitled to make the conditions of their lives as they are themselves.

This afternoon, although seventy of our dear women are in prison, although we have difficulty in getting our cause before the public on account of the attitude of the Press, we are full of hope and full of courage; yes, and I may say we are also full of joy in the new chivalry which is growing up amongst men, and we are full of joy because of the growing courage of women. Men have kept from us many things. There is one thing which they have kept from us, and that has been the joy of battle. They tell us women cannot fight. They tell us that warfare and strife are things that women must be kept out of, because coming into it would destroy all that is best in them, all that is noblest in womanhood, and we have found out that they were influenced not altogether by a desire for our welfare or our well-being. We know—every woman who took part in that Battle of Downing Street on Tuesday will agree—that there is something very strengthening in this strife, something very ennobling, and I believe it is good for the race that women should feel the joy of battle as well as men. I believe that it is good for the race that we women are having to fight for our freedom. I believe that we shall have a nobler and a finer race than we ever had when courage was the monopoly of men and submission was the monopoly of women.

MISS CHRISTABEL PANKHURST.

Miss Christabel Pankhurst, after giving a vivid description of the men's protest at Mr. Churchill's Bradford meeting, said:—

My friends, I think the supporters of Woman Suffrage had the best of it on that occasion. It is true they were thrown out, but the cause was not thrown out! One of our men friends is now lying in the Bradford Infirmary with a broken knee and a fractured leg. I wonder what they will say now about Mr. Birrell's knee! I think we shall not hear much more of that, in view of the much more serious injury which has been wantonly and brutally inflicted upon a man who was doing nothing but defending the cause of the wronged and oppressed.

It is a monstrous thing that Liberals should so deal with people who come to their meetings in defence of a great cause. We turn to the Liberal Press, and what do we find? Articles and accounts glorifying in the interruptions made by Liberals at Unionist meetings. There you have deliberate incitement to supporters of the Liberal Party to wreck the meetings of their political opponents, although the Liberals who take this action have the vote, and therefore a voice at the ballot-box, and have no need whatever, except for wilful mischief and perversity, to go to Unionist meetings at all. You find in the Liberal Press long accounts of "pertinent remarks" made by Liberal partisans at Unionist meetings, but not one word of condemnation. Yet when women who go to Liberal meetings to ask a simple political question are treated with brutality, and their safety of life and limb is endangered because Liberals are not prepared to carry their own principles into practice.

The Referendum.

I want to draw your attention to some observations which Cabinet Ministers have been making at these meetings. They have been discussing the Referendum. Mr. Asquith strongly opposes it. Mr. Lloyd George says it is not a method of administering justice, but an expensive method of denying justice. Then we turn to Mr. Churchill, and we find that he also does not want it. "But," he says, "I think there are some questions for which the Referendum might be an appropriate solution. I think that the question of female Suffrage is one which might be dealt with in this way." Is this the Government's plan? To use this "expensive method of denying justice" for the purpose of defeating and delaying the

women's claim to the vote? Listen further to what Mr. Churchill has to say: "I think this question is one which might well be a subject of direct appeal to the whole mass of the electorate. It is a question which is a moral and social question at once. It is a great question which appeals evenly and equally to the whole of his Majesty's subjects in the United Kingdom. It is a great national and social question, and it is a question on which every man in his cottage or in his house or in his palace should form a perfectly clear and direct and immediate opinion. But believe me," he says, "the general adoption of a system of Referendum would not be a satisfactory method of conducting the Government of the British Empire." My friends, we will not hear of the Referendum where our question is concerned. You did not refer the subject of men's suffrage to the vote of the women of the country, and we are not going to abide by the vote of the men of the country. If they took a Referendum to-morrow, and it proved that the men were against this reform, do you think that would make any difference to us? No, we should go on with our militant campaign more vigorously than ever, and what is more, we should still make the Government the responsible party, and we should still direct our attack upon them. They may try the Referendum; they may try sham pledges, but they will not get the better of us, because they are fighting with crooked weapons and we are fighting with straight ones; we are fighting in a just cause, and they are fighting in an unjust cause; we have courage, and they have none. We are quite confident of "frustrating their knavish tricks"—that is the expression which best describes their policy. We are confident in our own power to win, and we have with us to-day men who are prepared to fight with us. Yes, my friends, they have got men as well as women to reckon with, and I think they are getting rather afraid. The Government are at last beginning to take this movement seriously, and it is just as well for all concerned that they are. Too long have they hid their heads in the sand like ostriches, thinking that if they did so the movement would die out. Instead of dying out, it is becoming more widespread and militant.

The Liberal Women.

The Liberal women have condemned our action. We do not think that very loyal. We think women should stand by women to-day. The Liberal women will not refuse the vote which is won by our exertion and sacrifice; therefore we say silence would be more becoming if they had no word of praise or gratitude for the hundreds of women who have done so much for this cause! But we can forgive them their criticism of our Union more readily than we can forgive them the weak and wrongful action of condoning the Prime Minister's treachery. That, we think, is deplorable. Either these women have not the political insight to understand a sham pledge when they see one, or else they are willfully endangering the women's cause in the interests of the Liberal Party. Which is it? They can take their choice. If I were they I should rather say, "We did not understand. We thought this pledge was worth something, but now that it has been explained to us we see that it is not worth anything, and we give Mr. Asquith the choice of losing our support or giving us the vote." If they put this alternative to him now they can retrieve the great mistake that they have made. If they are going to tell us that they prefer party to principle—the interests of the Liberal Party to the interests of womanhood—we shall know what to think. We need not say more than that, except that we cannot be too much surprised, when we remember that women have been trained through generations to accept an inferior position, and have been taught disloyalty to other women. That is the one lesson that men have taught us: that woman's enemy is woman. What we prefer to do is to glory in the splendid spirit of our great deputation. In their courage and unselfishness one can see a vision of what all women will be when they have fair and just conditions under which to live. This is the true type of womanhood; these are the women we shall have in thousands and millions in our country when women are free.

The Conciliation Committee.

Now a word as to our very loyal and true friends of the Conciliation Committee. We thank them with much gratitude for all the splendid work that they have done in the House of Commons. Nobody feels more strongly than we do what splendid service the members of the Conciliation Committee have rendered to the women's cause. We hope that they will continue their efforts, and that they will be able to bring the Government to a sense of what is right and fit in this matter. We hope that counsels of conciliation may prevail next year, and that women will have their enfranchisement given to them, and if that should come about, as I believe it will if we all play our part, then the Conciliation Committee will deserve a very great share of

the gratitude and the praise. The Conciliation Committee have been giving us good advice. They have been giving us a scolding. Well, we have been scolded and advised so often during the past five years that we are pretty well hardened to both things. Now, we give great attention and great weight to the advice and counsel of the Conciliation Committee, just as we do to the advice and counsel of all friends of this movement. But when we find ourselves at variance with the Conciliation Committee we are bound to prefer our own opinion and our own judgment. One thing we lay down here definitely and finally: this is a woman's movement, led by women, and we are not prepared to surrender the leadership of this movement to men, however well-meaning, however earnest, and however devoted.

"SPIRITUAL MUSCLES."

The crowded and enthusiastic meeting held at the Scala Theatre on Thursday evening last was one long to be remembered. Long before the speakers arrived every seat in the house was taken, and as Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Pankhurst, and Mr. Pethick Lawrence entered they were greeted with an enthusiastic burst of cheering. In answer to cries of "Mrs. Pankhurst!" who had been announced to speak, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence explained that she had been persuaded to go away for a few days' rest before the General Election campaign. In a few brief words Mrs. Lawrence summed up the work that had been done during the week, and its result. Mr. Pethick Lawrence gave a description of the police-court proceedings, and after the collection, which reached over £73, had been taken, Miss Christabel Pankhurst said:—

As to the stone-throwing, "I think the readiness which women are now showing to break through the conventionalities in this way, and do acts of technical violence, is a most praiseworthy thing. It means that they are prepared to cast away false standards, and to disregard the narrow conventionalities which some people, who have no power of judgment of their own, regard as a sort of shelter and prop. These women of ours have spiritual muscles, and they can stand up straight without any props!"

QUESTIONS IN THE HOUSE.

On Thursday, November 24, Mr. Chancellor (Haggerston, Min.) asked the Home Secretary what instructions were issued to the police in regard to the arrest of women in connection with the deputation to the Prime Minister on Friday last; whether he was aware that in many cases unnecessary violence was used before arrest, resulting in injury requiring medical treatment; and whether he would inquire into the conduct of the police on that occasion and issue instructions to prevent a repetition of such conduct?

Mr. Churchill: I find on inquiry that the police for the most part acted under the instruction which has been in force for some time that they should avoid, as far as practicable, making arrests. The result was that some of the ladies who desired to be arrested made repeated efforts, and no doubt a few of them exhausted themselves, and may have required medical treatment. Several of them certainly used a good deal of force, as six of the police were reported injured. I am sorry that the arrests of those who violated the law and endangered their own safety in the crowd were in some cases so long delayed. My intention was, that the arrests should be made so soon as there was a lawful reason. On subsequent occasions those who have resisted the police in the performance of their duty have, in their own interest, been promptly taken into custody.

Mr. Soames (Norfolk, S., Min.): May I ask whether the constables who are suffering from scratches from these ladies have been compensated?

Mr. Churchill: I understand those police who were injured—some of them had quite disagreeable injuries—do not propose to make an official complaint.

Mr. Keir Hardie: Were not some of these injuries caused by the police breaking up the flag-staffs of the processionists? Will the Home Secretary instruct the police to afford these women protection from the violence of the crowd?

Mr. Churchill: I do not see how a scratch could be caused by the process of breaking a flag-staff; certainly not a bite, anyhow. (Laughter.) I hope the police will be able to protect these persons from the violence of the crowd.

TAX RESISTANCE.

One of the weapons of opposition which will be employed by women will be "tax resistance." Those who are proposing to do this will do well to make themselves acquainted, as far as possible, with the law on the question, and we recommend them to apply to the offices of the Women's Tax Resistance League at 72, Hillfield Road, Hampstead, N.W., whose secretary, Mrs. Kineton Parkes, will be pleased to supply them with information.

DESIGN FOR A FRESCO FOR CAXTON HALL.



[Kindly lent by the "Evening Times," in whose issue of November 24 the drawing was published.]

THE "VOICE" AT CABINET MINISTERS' MEETINGS.

The state of war to which the action of the Prime Minister and his Cabinet have forced Suffragettes to return does not end, as Ministers may have fondly hoped, with the events of last week, and with the discharge of some women and the excessive punishment of others. Every Minister who has been a party to the disgraceful treatment of the Conciliation Bill in opposition to the expressed wish of the House of Commons will be effectively and unpleasantly reminded of his attitude on every conceivable opportunity. During the past week several magnificent protests were made by Suffragettes, aided by members of the Men's Political Union, and the Ministers concerned must now realise only too well that they will have no chance of escaping from the voice of conscience proceeding from the mouth of the women who fight for their liberty.

MR. ASQUITH.

Even the Prime Minister, though protected by every possible means, heard "the voice" to good purpose at Hull last Friday. The same ridiculous precautions were taken that Suffragettes know so well from past experience, but even police, mounted and on foot, detectives, huge barricades, and nearly 200 stewards were not effectual in keeping out the women. The City Hall was packed with people all speaking about the Suffragettes and congratulating themselves on the fact that the precautions taken were so minute that the intrusion of these unwelcome visitors was impossible. Mr. Asquith, however, had spoken but a few minutes when a woman's voice, described by an impartial onlooker as "calm and clear," rang out with the words, "You are no Liberal! You are a traitor! Why did you veto our Bill?" The speaker, Miss Laura Ainsworth, was seized by furious stewards, who, with the greatest brutality, dragged her from the hall. A little later a man called out at an appropriate time, "But you are afraid of the women!" He was removed after a struggle, and so were two other men who attempted to ask a question. The brutality of the stewards raised cries of "Shame!" all over the hall. The effect of these protests on the atmosphere of the hall was tremendous; a great uproar was created, and certainly, says an onlooker, Mr. Asquith's speech lost half its effect. Crowds were assembled outside the hall and cheered as each protester came out from the meeting.

The remote little village where the Prime Minister was to spend the night was robbed of its peace that evening by the presence of 150 policemen, who were provided with dogs for the purpose of hunting the shrunken. Mr. Asquith, however, had to suffer another encounter; a woman and two men got into a train at Hull which he joined at an intermediate station, and on alighting at Doncaster Miss Laura Ainsworth went up to the Premier's carriage and drummed on the window, saying, "Votes for women next session and save your soul." The Prime Minister hid his face behind his paper, while Miss Ainsworth was seized by detectives, and would have been roughly handled had not her two men companions intervened. She was then released, and took the opportunity of explaining her action to a sympathetic and interested crowd on the platform.

At Paddington.

On Tuesday night as Mr. Asquith was catching the 5.45 train to Reading, very well protected by police and detectives, a Suffragette approached him, caught hold of his arm, and said, "Votes for women, you coward." She was hurriedly escorted right out of the station.

MR. WINSTON CHURCHILL.

The Home Secretary is the originator of the new system by which women are brutally knocked about between police in uniform and police in plain clothes, and, when eventually arrested for breaking the law, are afterwards discharged, presumably because they did not break the law. The man responsible for this must not be surprised if Suffragists, both men and women, tell him by word or deed what they think of him.

At Manchester.

At the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, last Friday, Mr. Churchill appeared in place of Mr. Birrell, and took the opportunity of explaining that Mr. Birrell had been "vilely

assaulted," and was therefore unable to speak, although, of course, Mr. Churchill must have read Mr. Birrell's own explanation of how he accidentally twisted his knee. The papers state that great precautions were taken to prevent the admission of Suffragettes, and two hours before the meeting two women were discovered under the platform and turned out. Mr. Churchill, however, had had to face the women on his way to the hall. One woman tried to get on his car, and others, as he entered the hall, told him plainly what they thought of him. Some afterwards succeeded in boarding his car, telling him their opinions and deluging him with copies of VOTES FOR WOMEN. Although this meeting was free from interruption, an effective protest was made when the Home Secretary spoke a little later on at St. John's Schools, Cheetham. Miss Rona Robinson, who was sitting behind him, caught hold of his coat firmly, in order that she might speak to him, and, in spite of the efforts of the stewards, she did not relax her grip for some considerable time, and Mr. Churchill was almost dragged to the floor. Eventually Miss Robinson was taken out, and Miss Helen Tolson, who attempted to meet him face to face, was also hurried out of the building. Mr. Churchill, although it is said that he asked the stewards to deal gently with the women, and although he attempted to make a foolish personal remark on their nice appearance, appeared very agitated. But what the *Manchester Dispatch* calls "the crowning humiliation of the evening" was reserved for the end. As Mr. Churchill got into his car a Suffragette came forward and, putting her arm through the open window, struck at Mr. Churchill with a copy of VOTES FOR WOMEN. Others gathered round calling, "Coward, traitor." After this, Mr. Churchill's car was rushed away from the scene of action protected in front and behind by motor-cars.

At Lambeth Baths.

Thirty members of the Men's Political Union for Women's Enfranchisement attended a meeting at Lambeth Baths on Monday evening in order to raise a protest against the brutality of Liberal stewards and the conduct of the Government in regard to woman suffrage. One after another this splendid band stood up and sent their shafts home. As soon as Mr. Churchill rose to speak, the first man stood up on a chair and said, "Don't talk about the veto of the House of Lords—what about the veto of the Government?" Mr. Churchill sat down, and the second man in the audience shouted, "Why do you order the women to be knocked about, you hypocrite?" By this time stewards rushed forward, but it was with great difficulty that the interruptors were secured, as the remaining twenty-eight sympathisers stood round and resisted the onslaught of Mr. Churchill's friends. It took at least ten minutes to eject all the men, and there was tremendous uproar. As soon as order was restored Mr. Churchill made the following statement:—"I greatly regret that you should be forced to take violent measures against any person who comes to this hall, but we have a right to fair play. We have a right, a most valuable right for democracy, to be able to conduct our public gatherings in decency and order; if these persons, who have come treacherously into our midst to disturb our meetings with deliberate intent, and probably paid for their services, if they choose to interrupt our gatherings, it is an insult not to the speaker, but to the audience. If they want to press their cause let them hold a meeting of their own. We would not disturb them. Let them take their hall and make their speeches, and ask whom they desire to come and listen to them. We will do all in our power to secure them the fullest opportunity of stating their views. These systematic, deliberate, cold, calculated money-fed attempts to break up meeting after meeting have only one consequence, and that is to rob the masses of people of one of the most valuable rights any democracy can possess and one of the essential safeguards to free government. I mean the power to conduct public meetings, where the speaker is perhaps in some responsible position in the Government of the country and makes a plain statement to his fellow-citizens, and where any man is entitled to make a reasonable or sharp interjection, and where every man is entitled to express his opinion afterwards when the vote is taken. That is a proper process, and I am bound to

say I think it is the duty of every democrat to strike hard against those who violate this process. I am told individuals are to be singled out for violence. I say if that is the language, there is only one reply, and that is, 'Come on.' If a public man is to allow his course to be altered by mere threats of personal violence, then he would be unworthy of the slightest respect or confidence from any class or section of the population. If there are gentlemen here who are going to make a disturbance, be very careful you don't hurt them, but I shall rely on you promptly and firmly to take the interrupter from the building."

Continuing his speech, he was interrupted by five more men shouting, "Votes for Women." After a good deal of commotion they were thrown out of the meeting. Much violence was used, but thanks are due to the police outside for the kindly way they assisted the Suffragists to get away. It is interesting to note that many Liberals raised their voices against the stewards' rough behaviour.

Two veterans were talking of the time when Mr. Chamberlain went over to the Conservative party. One said, "I was one of fifty young chaps who made a rush and got into the hall. We had no tickets, but just forced our way through the door. When Joe started speaking we began to interrupt and ask why the meeting was not open to everyone. We were put out after a severe struggle, but at all future meetings the general public were invited."

MR. LLOYD GEORGE.

Mr. Lloyd George attempted a new way to prevent interruption on Wednesday last week at the St. Pancras Baths. It is a simple way—to make a promise and not keep it, but it is a way that will recoil on his own head. Most of the Suffragists, not deceived by it, made their protests; those who refrained and were deceived are not likely to trust him any more.

He began his speech by stating that he would answer any questions at the end, but the moment the speech was over he left the platform, and no explanation was given to those who demanded indignantly why he had not kept his promise.

The other men and women, however, who took no notice of his promise made a most splendid protest. A cry of "Give votes for women!" Mr. Lloyd George met with the remark, "Take no notice of that cat mewing," but the interrupter was removed. The stewards, however, found themselves nonplussed a few minutes later, when a woman's voice from the roof made several pertinent comments, and when from the top of the domed roof of the hall a Suffragist flag of purple, white, and green was let down almost on to the heads of the standing audience. This led, says the *Daily Telegraph*, to great uproarious protest, which was heightened by the lowering of another and similar flag from the roof further back in the hall. Many in the audience made efforts to grasp the flags, but the Suffragists, whose voices could be heard taunting those below, amused themselves by dipping the flags and quickly drawing them up again as attempts were made to capture them.

One man rose on the shoulders of others of the audience, and with an umbrella tried to hook the elusive colours, but he entirely failed, and the flag was left hanging triumphantly half-way between the floor and the roof. To divert the attention of the audience the trumpeter who led the vocal harmony of the meeting struck up a tune, which the audience sang, and Mr. George sat back in his chair.

One who was present writes:—"This demonstration was greeted with clapping and volleys of cheering. The uproar continued for about ten minutes, and was only quelled by the vigorous use of a cornet. Two of the flags remained out of reach for about twenty minutes, distracting the attention of the audience till their removal." Those men in the meeting who were not furious with rage, were shouting with laughter.

The two women responsible for this achievement were detained at the police station for forty-five minutes, and were then set free without any charge being preferred. A number of male Suffragists also took Lloyd George's word for what it was worth, and ignored it, pointing out inconsistencies in his speech, and reminding him of the barbarous treatment of the women in Parliament Square. They were, of course, ejected, but a number of inter-

ruptions on other subjects were made with impunity; in fact, Lloyd George remarked, on a Tory interruption, "Let him remain. I like interruptions; they show that people holding different opinions to mine are present, giving me a chance to convert them."

It is obvious that the Woman Suffrage question is the only one that Cabinet Ministers cannot face. Is it conscience that makes cowards of them?

In Midlothian.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer was again reminded of the Suffragettes during Saturday at Edinburgh. Both in the King's Theatre and in the Synod Hall the question of Votes for Women was brought forcibly under his notice, and when later his motor stopped, on the way to the home of his host, the Chief Whip, at Loanhead and at Penicuik, members of the Union were there before him, and stayed on after his brief "angel's visit" of three or four minutes. Miss Burn Murdoch and Miss A. Scott delivered rousing speeches to the crowds. At Penicuik, where the Master of Elibank first mounted the temporary platform in the square, and Mr. Lloyd George remained in the motor-car by the roadside, Miss Muriel Scott succeeded in getting close up to the car on the far side, and, knocking on the glass (which unfortunately did not break), she called in by the open window, "Mr. Lloyd George, why will you not give Votes to Women?" The Chancellor looked at her in startled surprise, "as if he had been shot," so unexpected was the question, and the fadeless smile he cultivates seemed to wither into rage, but rough hands seized the questioner and dragged her away.

At Edinburgh.

A member of the Men's Political Union, however, attended the meeting at Edinburgh on Saturday in order to raise a protest on behalf of woman suffrage. Mr. Lloyd George said, in referring to the House of Lords: "Why should they think you are incapable of governing yourselves?" whereupon the suffrage sympathiser shouted out: "Why should you think women are incapable of governing themselves?" He was ejected from the meeting with a great deal of unnecessary violence.

MR. JOHN BURNS.

The peaceful inhabitants of the Borough of Wandsworth, who attended the formal opening of their new infirmary last Saturday, would have been rather surprised had they known that the lodge near the gate was packed full of policemen, and would surely have been more surprised still had they been told that the cause for this was that a few men or women might venture to ask a democratic Cabinet Minister some questions with regard to the Woman Suffrage Bill. Mr. John Burns is, however, irritated when interrupted, and does not hesitate to invite to violence. Three members of the Men's Political Union were roughly ejected for mild interruptions, and the same course was followed with a Suffragette. The last man to be thrown out—a well-known Rugby footballer—made a most effective protest. At a suitable moment he stood up and called out, "John Burns, you've got to toe the line; the women of Great Britain and Ireland must have the vote, and you've got to help them." After a fight of some minutes he was tripped up, and about fifteen men flung themselves upon him, while others kicked him unmercifully. Eventually the police were called in, and after some little time succeeded in getting the interrupter to the door. Mr. Burns, at each interruption, called out loudly: "That is right, throw him out," and the brutality used is not surprising when it is realised that Mr. Burns said plainly: "This ceremony would be incomplete without a little ambulance practice."

MR. HERBERT SAMUEL.

At Mr. Samuel's meeting in support of the Government candidate at Preston last Saturday a Suffragette held up one of the Union's posters in full view for several minutes before it was snatched down. Four other women were turned out for interrupting when they endeavoured to draw the speaker's attention to the fact that the Cabinet had vetoed the will of the people. One of the women had her dress badly torn and her arms bruised, and, but for the intervention of a stranger, would have been thrown down the stone staircase. At question time many written questions were sent up on the Government's attitude to the Conciliation Bill, in answer to which Mr. Hilton Young endeavoured to show that the Bill was deficient, and that adult suffrage was the right thing.

MAN'S LEG BROKEN FOR ASKING A QUESTION OF MR. CHURCHILL.

"They have lost all sense of decency. They have forgotten their manhood." These were the words of a disgusted police constable who witnessed the savagely brutal ejection of Mr. Alfred Hawkins by Liberal stewards from St. George's Hall, Bradford, last Saturday afternoon.

Mr. Winston Churchill was addressing a mass meeting there convened by the League of Young Liberals. After a few preliminary flourishes the Home Secretary said: "One great question awaits the consideration of democracy"—"And that is woman suffrage," shouted Mr. H. A. Franklin, who was sitting in the stalls. Half-a-dozen stewards rushed on him and ejected him with a rain of blows on his head.

When the uproar had subsided, Mr. Churchill proceeded to deal with the Government's quarrel with the Lords. A one-sided struggle, he argued, often averted, long debated, long delayed, but always inevitable, had come at last to the final stages. "What you say applies equally to the women who are demanding the vote," shouted Mr. Alfred Hawkins, whose wife is one of the women imprisoned in Holloway. Five stewards rushed upon Mr. Hawkins, who was seated near the door, and quickly had him outside in the passage. Here four more stewards joined them, and though Mr. Hawkins made no resistance in the passage, and said he would go quietly, his grey hairs did not protect him from the savagery of the gallant "Young Liberals." Kicked and buffeted, he was dragged to the top of a staircase and, with a kick in the middle of his back, sent flying down the stairs. He fell on his knees, one of which sustained a double fracture. "You've broken my leg," said Mr. Hawkins; "haven't you done enough, you curs?"

"No," they shouted, savagely, and lifting him up they flung him outside the entrance hall on to the pavement. Mrs. Holton and Mrs. Frank Rutter, waiting outside for their husbands within, ran to his assistance, and with the help of four kindly constables lifted him tenderly and carried him back to the hall, where the police guarded him till an ambulance came. Mr. Hawkins was afterwards taken to the Royal Infirmary and examined by the house surgeon, Mr. J. H. Rawlinson, who certified that Mr. Hawkins was suffering from fracture of the patella, would have to remain in hospital for at least two months, and would probably not be fit for work for at least four months. "I should like to emphasise the fact that the 'Young Liberals' reserved their most wanton exhibition of brutality for the oldest Suffragist present, and that the constables on duty outside St. George's Hall did all in their power to look after and tend the victim of this abominable outrage."

Meanwhile our "humane" Home Secretary was blandly explaining to his vast audience that Lord Lansdowne had complained of him. "And the women complain of you, too, you scoundrel," added a third member of the Men's Political Union. Disgusted at the behaviour of the stewards, a Bradford sympathiser went to his assistance, and there was a battle royal in the passage before the two were ejected.

Order restored, Mr. Churchill continued to sum up the iniquities of the Upper Chamber. He alleged that they had wrecked the main work of the last Parliament, he contended that they would wreck any important legislation this House of Commons might pass. Under the circumstances, he plaintively inquired, "What can we do?" "Give votes to women," I replied, and with kicks on the back and legs was assisted to the passage. Here one of the chief stewards, frightened at Mr. Hawkins' injury, intervened, and sending back the other stewards, led me with unusual courtesy to the door.

Hardly had I disappeared when Mr. Churchill again asked, "What can we do?" Again came the thundering reply, "Give votes to women," and a Bradford sympathiser was hustled out by his fellow-townsmen.

"Take no notice of these interruptions," said Mr. Churchill. "We are here to do the nation's business, and not to pay attention to foolish antics, which, though they may bring a little profit to the persons who are engaged to perform them, are only an injury to the important cause in support of which they are advanced."

But there was still another man in the hall who thought the women should have some share in the nation's business, and a little later he rose to inquire, "I should like to know why is everybody thrown out who asks for votes for women?" No explanation was offered him save the violent ejection reserved for all who claim free speech by the Liberal "friends of the people."

Frank Rutter.

While the meeting was going on women held a protest meeting in an adjoining street, with Dr. Helena Jones and Miss Ainsworth its speakers, and as the men were thrown out they joined the women and spoke from their platform. Being Saturday afternoon there was a good audience, people listened most atten-

tively, the last copy of *VOTES FOR WOMEN* was sold, and names of sympathisers were given in. The Suffragettes distributed broadcast a letter from Mrs. Beldon, of Bradford, describing her experiences when she took part in the last deputation to Mr. Asquith. As it was from a well-known local woman it aroused a great deal of interest.

Still another experience awaited Mr. Churchill, for on his return journey to London, although he was guarded by police and detectives, it is alleged that he was struck with a whip by Mr. Franklin, who was travelling in the train with Miss Laura Ainsworth. Mr. Franklin was arrested, and the case came before the magistrates last Monday, and was adjourned for a week. We, therefore, refrain from any further comment.

When Mr. Churchill arrived by the 5.10 train from Bradford he was met on the platform by two women, who went up to speak to him. Detectives immediately seized hold of them, one of them was thrown down and held there while Mr. Churchill crossed the platform to where four or five taxi-cabs were waiting. These drove off, and the women thought he had left the station; however, they discovered that he had only walked across the platform, and one of them ran up and touched him on the shoulder. She, however, was seized by detectives, and Mr. Churchill drove off.

LEGAL ACTION TAKEN.

We understand that legal proceedings are being taken by the Men's Political Union for Women's Enfranchisement on Mr. Hawkins' behalf against the League of Young Liberals to recover damages for personal injuries, the ground being that unnecessary violence was used against Mr. Hawkins. Mr. Marshall has charge of the case.

Mr. Arthur Craven has sent a letter to the *Yorkshire Observer*, in the course of which he says:—

Yesterday I saw Mr. Hawkins, who now lies injured at the infirmary and who expects to remain there for at least five weeks. He made a statement to me, of which the following is the substance:—After interjecting the remark, "That question applies to woman suffrage as well as to men," he was hurried by the stewards into the corridor, and, being roughly handled, he said, "Now you have got me out of the hall you need not be so violent," whereupon he was thrown down a short flight of steps, and his leg coming into contact with the stone, he sustained a fracture of the kneecap. In reply to his cry that his leg was broken, he was lifted up and thrown into the street. Although Mr. Hawkins was badly injured, and fears that his detention in hospital will involve the loss of part of his employment, not a single expression of ill-will did I hear him utter towards his assailants. His wife is now in Holloway Gaol for the third time on account of her connection with the militant suffrage movement. Mr. Hawkins states that he is not a new convert to votes for women, having signed a declaration in favour of woman suffrage over twenty years ago.

I do not pass an opinion as to the wisdom or the folly of interrupting public meetings, but there is the widest difference between the rowdy who will smash up a meeting of any party for the sake of a drink and the interrupter who interjects quite relevant remarks and who uses them with a conviction of their justice. How is it that the latter when advocating votes for women is treated as though he were a wild beast, whilst the former sometimes escapes easily? Can it be that the Suffragist, by demanding the logical application of Liberal principles, hurts Liberals' susceptibilities, whilst the rowdy does not?

At any rate, level-headed and humane members of the Liberal party will agree that Liberal principles are not emphasised by stewards renouncing their manhood and assuming the character of the lower animals in order to cope with disturbers.

THE PRESS ON THE "TERROR"

"Daily Mirror."

"What did it feel like (people sometimes ask) to live during the Reign of Terror? If you want to know what it feels like, go to a Cabinet Minister in a Liberal Government. Go to Mr. Winston Churchill. Go to Mr. Birrell. Ask them. They, alone perhaps of celebrated modern men, know what it is to slink by in hidden paths and subterranean passages. Watched wherever they go, tracked, denuded, hunted, as constantly, as mercilessly, as any proscribed Girondin of old, they feel the Terror at every step. As one cracks an egg in the morning he never knows but it may be a bomb. His cook may turn out traitress. His doorstep is unsafe. His home is a kind of jail, or cavern for concealment. And all this is as it is because the Terror is a Terror of Women. Invasive, domestic, dreadful, everywhere insinuating itself in dis-

guise, is this Terror of the moment. We are alluding to the Suffragettes."

The precautionary measures which were taken yesterday by the police authorities of London to safeguard the members of the Cabinet, their near relatives, and their residences from attacks by Suffragettes or by men sympathisers with the Votes for Women movement were of a nature which has not been paralleled since the days of the Fenian outrages in this country a generation ago. Each Minister who is in London has been closely followed to and fro by unobtrusive but keen-eyed police officers in plain clothes, and other members of the Cabinet who are electioneering in the provinces have been guarded step by step also by officers of the department. When Mr. Lloyd George, with the Master of Elibank, reached St. Pancras at 6.30 p.m. yesterday from Scotland, he was guarded by detectives, one driving away with him in his motor-car.

—The Daily Mail, November 29.

A number of suffragettes have arrived at Hull, but they are being kept under observation by the police and detectives, in order that Mr. Asquith may, if possible, be unmolested. He is to leave at a station outside the city, and come on to Hull a few minutes before the public meeting in a motor-car.

—The Globe.

There were several interruptions from masculine sympathisers with the woman suffragists—no women with the exception of Mrs. Winston Churchill and Mrs. Lloyd George were in the hall—and they were removed with the most amazing brutal violence.

—Daily Express.

For several months the Suffragists maintained an unwonted silence, and this was construed in many quarters as an indication of failing enthusiasm and faltering resolution. If Ministers adopted that view the events of the past few days must have rudely undeceived them. Since it became evident that an almost immediate appeal to the country was inevitable, the Suffragists have displayed extraordinary activity, resorting to tactics likely to give the greatest possible trouble to the authorities and the most serious embarrassment and annoyance to the Premier and his colleagues. The ladies have determined that, at any cost, they will compel the Government to deal practically with the Suffrage question instead of having recourse to delusive promises, and it really does not seem greatly to matter how the magistrates may choose to treat them. They will follow Ministers throughout the country interrupting their speeches and seeking by every means to discredit them. That is evidently "the plan of campaign," and there are hundreds of enthusiastic women eager to carry it out.

Although we do not like this kind of thing, and think it is a pity that the Suffragists do not restrain their energies a little, we cannot ignore the fact that some allowance must be made for people who, having carried on a quiet and perfectly reasonable agitation for thirty or forty years without being listened to, have at last adopted methods that are certain to call public attention to their grievances. The franchise ought to have been extended to women years ago. Every rational human being knows that it must sooner or later, and the delay is inexcusable.

THE PRIME MINISTER AT READING.

A member of the M.P.U. (Mr. Harding) reports:—"I stood on a tram outside the shed during Sir Rufus Isaacs' introduction and the first part of Mr. Asquith's speech. I heard men interjecting such remarks as 'How about justice to women?' They were ejected; one of them limped, and a tremendous crowd followed. Then came Jacob's interruption, which was so long that a man next to me said 'That man's making a speech.' Mr. Asquith was saying something about democracy, when he broke in with 'Aren't the women half of the democracy?' And how were they treated in Parliament Square? He went out very dramatically. Each time a man went out there was a huge rush for the gate, and the ejected one walked through a long and not wholly hostile lane. By this time I was in the hall, and could hear Mr. Asquith speaking about Bills held up in Parliament. Here another man made the finest interruption of the evening, with a megaphone from a car outside, near the front, and right on a line with the platform. So loud was it that I thought it came from the platform, and Mr. Asquith stopped speaking. It was a long interruption, and caught the Prime Minister up about the Conciliation Bill and his veto. Then, as Mr. Asquith was saying 'Fair play for progressive legislation,' I shouted 'How about the Parliamentary majority on the Women's Bill?' and amid a loud uproar was swiftly ejected through the side of the building. I walked rapidly out through a large and interested crowd to the outer barrier, then to the rendezvous, and so home."

* During the past five months they have held considerably over 4,000 meetings, many in the largest halls in the country; and three times they have filled the Royal Albert Hall, in London.—Ed. *VOTES FOR WOMEN*.

THE ALLEGED ASSAULT ON MR. CHURCHILL.

Mr. Franklin Remanded in Custody.

Mr. Hugh Arthur Franklin, who is alleged to have assaulted Mr. Winston Churchill on Saturday in the train which was conveying the Home Secretary from Bradford to London, after his speech at the former place, surrendered to his bail at Bow Street Police Court on Tuesday to answer the charge preferred against him.

The case was taken specially, by Sir Albert de Rutzen, in the Upper Court at 12.30, it being understood, although not officially announced, that that hour was fixed to enable Mr. Churchill to attend. When the case was called, however, Mr. Churchill was not present, but his private secretary was in court.

Mr. Franklin, nephew of Mr. Herbert Samuel, Postmaster-General, a gentleman of independent means, twenty-one years of age, living at Pembroke Gardens, Notting Hill Gate, was charged with assaulting Mr. Churchill by attempting to strike him with a whip. Mr. Bodkin prosecuted. The Director of Public Prosecutions, Sir Charles Mathews, occupied a seat on the Bench. Superintendent Quinn, of Scotland Yard, represented the police.

When the defendant entered the dock Mr. Freke Palmer, solicitor, said he had been instructed by his (the defendant's) friends to defend him. He had, however, had a conversation with the defendant, and found that he preferred to conduct his own defence on his own lines.

Mr. Bodkin's Statement.

In opening the case Mr. Bodkin stated that the matter was a serious one, as the gentleman assaulted held the high office of Secretary of State for the Home Department. The offence was committed on Saturday evening, in a train in which Mr. Churchill and the defendant were travelling from Bradford to London. The defendant, who was accompanied by a lady, had provided himself with a dog whip, and as the Home Secretary passed along the train towards the dining-saloon he attempted to strike him with it, making use of some violent language towards him at the same time. Fortunately, it had been deemed necessary—and, as it turned out, it certainly was necessary—to give the right hon. gentleman police protection, and the defendant was promptly seized by one of two officers who were in the train. He was forced back on to a seat, and, as he was taken to King's Cross, this Court had jurisdiction. It was very desirable that there should be a full and proper inquiry, in order that this grave matter might be put before the magistrate completely, and it was therefore proposed that only one witness should be called on this occasion. He (counsel) did not wish to go into further facts which might throw light on the defendant's premeditation until after complete inquiries had been made in order that the magistrate would know how to deal with the defendant.

Detective-sergeant Sandercock, the only witness called, stated that he travelled with Inspector Parker on the 5.10 p.m. train from Bradford to London on Saturday afternoon; Mr. Churchill was also a passenger, and that he (witness) noticed the defendant sitting in a third-class compartment with a lady—Miss Laura Ainsworth. The Home Secretary had addressed a meeting at Bradford, and the defendant was ejected for interrupting with a reference to the "Votes for Women" agitation.

The witness went on to state that in order to reach the dining car Mr. Churchill had to pass the compartment in which the defendant was seated; that he himself, in accordance with instructions, had taken a seat next to Miss Ainsworth, whom he recognised in connection with the Suffrage movement, and opposite the defendant; that when the door opened for Mr. Churchill to pass, the defendant jumped up, and, drawing a whip from his pocket, shouted, "Winston Churchill, take that, you dirty cur!" Witness went on to say that he seized defendant by the throat and forced him into the corner of the seat, while Inspector Parker forcibly dragged the whip from defendant's hand as he was flourishing it; that defendant struggled violently in his efforts to get to Mr. Churchill, from whom he was about a yard away; that Mr. Churchill went on to the dining car and returned the same way, defendant being detained in the compartment. On arriving at King's Cross the defendant was taken to Somers Town Police Station and charged by Inspector Parker. Witness said he made no reply, and was bailed out at 12.30 on Sunday morning. Witness had previously seen defendant forcibly ejected from a political meeting, because he had shouted something about Votes for Women.

The Defendant: You have said I was ejected. You have not said how I was ejected—I have said you were forcibly ejected.

Did they use unnecessary violence?—I don't think so.

Mr. Franklin denied that he used the expression "dirty cur," and that what he said was: "Winston Churchill, take that for your treatment of Suffragettes."

The witness said he was sure the word "dirty" was used.

Sir Albert de Rutzen remanded Mr. Franklin for a week in custody. During the hearing of the case the whip was produced in court. A man who had a camera left the court on complaint being made of his presence to the magistrate.

We understand that application is being made to the Judge in Chambers for bail.

FURNITURE.

An Article Giving Expert Advice, and of Especial Interest to All Classes of Women.

THE FIVE MINUTES SPENT IN THE READING OF THIS PAGE WILL WELL REPAY ANY PERSON WHO CAN APPRECIATE THE OPPORTUNITY OF OBTAINING HIGHEST CLASS FURNITURE ON SPECIALLY FAVOURABLE TERMS.

Too little attention is given in these days of bustle and drive to the proper selection of furniture which will make the home comfortable in every sense of the word. Home, the place in which we live; proclaims, whether it is realised or not, the characters of those abiding in it. Shabby home, shabby man; tasteful home, a man or woman of taste; neglectful home, a neglectful character. The home is the index of success or failure. Make the home such that it attracts you and it will attract others to you. Furnish with taste, but above all let your furniture be good. Time spent in improving the home is one of the finest investments that can be made. It cannot be too deeply impressed that great care and attention should be given both in the selection of furniture and the arrangement of same, in order to give the best result. Therefore, it is necessary that an expert should be taken into confidence, and herein lies the great success of Messrs. Wolfe and Hollander, Limited, 252-6, Tottenham Court Road, W.

Look round your home, and you will surely find some little corner too bare. Perhaps you will find one room needs a new suite; perhaps you will realise that your whole house could well be refurnished.

When such a house as Wolfe and Hollander offer such an opportunity of obtaining the best furniture that London can produce at phenomenally low prices, this is the time to be up and doing.

You must not fail to visit the Tottenham Court Road showrooms, and the best advice that can be given you is—do not delay your visit.

It is not very often that those desirous of purchasing furniture have such a splendid opportunity of obtaining what they desire on practically their own terms.

The occasion is unique, and whether you desire a single article or a house of furniture you should determine not to let this chance slip past you.

There is not one single article in the huge stock at the Wolfe and Hollander showrooms that would not find a fitting place in any home. Now is the time to secure the articles. Do not wait until the rush of winter festivities is upon you.

Any responsible person may walk into the Wolfe and Hollander showrooms and state his wishes in regard to the furnishing of his home, and those wishes will be complied with. There will be no need for any heavy outlay, no matter what amount of furniture is required. **ALL THE PURCHASER IS ASKED TO DO IS TO PAY AN INITIAL PAYMENT OF 2/- IN THE 21.** When this is done the furniture is at once sent to any address in London or the provinces. You will order as you desire, obtain your furniture for the asking and arrange the subsequent payments according to your convenience by the simple system the firm have inaugurated.

If you desire £100 worth of goods you may select the same from the rich stock at cash prices in the extensive

showrooms and by simply adding five per cent. to the cash prices extend payment over one, two, or three years. Thus your £100 worth of furniture costs you but £105, and your first payment is but £10. In the same way £50 worth of furniture costs but £52 10s., first payment £5, and £20 worth but £21, first payment £2.

They do not advertise a continual clearance sale, for their ordinary prices are so low that they will not admit of reductions, as are usual with many firms. Their aim is to supply first-rate goods at absolutely rock bottom prices.

Although Wolfe and Hollander conduct a huge cash business among the aristocracy, indeed among all classes, this new system of deferring payments over a period is becoming more and more popular.

In every branch of society are those who have adopted the new system, its extreme simplicity and perfect fairness at once appealing. You have only to call at the magnificent showrooms, 252-256, Tottenham Court Road (Oxford Street end), London, W., and talk to one of the directors to realise how well they can gauge your requirements, but if you cannot call, you should **AT ONCE SEND FOR THEIR NEW FURNITURE BOOK, WHICH THEY NOW HAVE READY.**

If you really want to know how to obtain really "good" furniture at moderate prices, this book will tell you. From cover to cover it is brimful of suggestions, and no lover of the home can really afford to be without a copy.

Arrangements have been made whereby everyone may receive a copy of this furniture book free of charge. All you are asked to do is to send your name and address to the address given below, when a copy will reach you in due course.

It must be understood that although this huge furniture album with its rich illustrations measures about twelve inches by eight inches, there is no charge whatever for the same, and no obligation on the part of the recipient.

Whether you desire one single article of furniture or a whole mansion furnished, from a kitchen fender to a grand piano, you can select the same from the enormous modern stock at the Wolfe and Hollander premises. Every article is guaranteed to be of best manufacture, and exactly as described.

The Wolfe and Hollander showrooms, 252-256, Tottenham Court Road, W., are easily reached from any part of London or suburbs. There are tube stations almost at the doors, and a continuous stream of motor and horse 'buses, taxicabs, etc., continually pass the handsome frontage. If you desire to 'phone or telegraph us announcing your visit, will you please either ring up 1850 Gerrard or send your telegram to "Wolthol" London.

ONE MONTH FOR A PROTEST.

Yet another woman has been sentenced to a term of imprisonment for recording her protest against the Government's treatment of the Conciliation Bill. On Wednesday, as we went to Press, Miss Emily Wilding Davison, B.A., who, it will be remembered, obtained damages from the authorities of Strangeways (Gael Manchester, for their action in turning a hose-pipe on her while in prison, and who has several times suffered imprisonment for the cause, was brought up before Sir Albert de Rutzen at Bow Street, and was ordered to pay a fine of £5, or to undergo one month's imprisonment for having broken glass to the value of £2 at the House of Commons on Saturday, November 19. Addressing the magistrate, Miss Davison said: "I wish to explain why I did it. I had two reasons; first and foremost in the disgraceful treatment that my comrades had received on the day before in Parliament Square, owing to the orders of the Government. That was my chief reason for breaking this pane of glass, and the other was that once before I had given the same sort of reminder to Mr. Asquith about fixing a date for the Second Reading of the Conciliation Bill and he took my advice, and I thought that he would probably have the good sense to take it this time as well. Therefore, I tied some messages on to the hammer, which I trust he has received, to the effect that the women of England are in earnest, and that they mean to have this thing; they mean to have their enfranchisement, and it would be far wiser to give it to them now than to urge the women on to violence—for that is practically what they are doing at present. I also thought that it was better that damage should be done to Government property than that it should be done to defenceless women, as it was done the day before. I should further like to say, Sir, that stone-throwing is the only argument which the Government understands. There are good reasons for knowing this. When £100,000 worth of damage was done in Bristol on one night, and when in London the windows of the Duke of Wellington's house were smashed, the Reform Bill of 1832 was promptly brought in. Then the breaking down of the Hyde Park railings of 1867 won the Reform Bill of that year. Well, Sir, there you have historical precedent, and it seems that the Government will listen to no other argument from women, and, therefore, the blame for anything that may occur will rest upon them."

Miss Davison, of course, refused to pay the fine.

THE PRESS ON THE HOME SECRETARY.

His interference with the ordinary course of justice when he ordered the liberation of the accused persons arrested on Friday afternoon is a palpable piece of electioneering of not too painful a kind. If he had any hopes of conciliating the women they have been disappointed, for the true motive of his conduct has been at once recognised.

THE BRISTOL TIMES.

It is not to be suggested, of course, that a British Minister of the Crown would so far forget the duty he owes to the State as to interfere with the ordinary course of the law with a view to an electioneering coup. A Minister guilty of such behaviour would deserve to be impeached at the bar of the House of Commons. It can only be said that Mr. Winston Churchill has been singularly unfortunate in the moment he has chosen for discovering that prosecution of the Suffragettes is undesirable "on grounds of public policy."

THE GLOBE.

It has hitherto been the proudest boast of this country that the law at any rate stood above all party quarrels, and that its administration was independent of all party exigencies. Our Americanised Home Secretary has changed all that, and we can no longer pride ourselves upon the certainty that the law will be applied without fear or favour to all offenders alike. . . . We do not know and we do not care whether the dominating influence over the Home Secretary's mind be political terror or moral cowardice. His action in this matter is a degradation of English justice and a dishonour to English public life, and it is some comfort to reflect that, by descent, he is only half an Englishman.

THE EVENING TIMES.

We have no desire, even at the moment when less responsible journals might be inclined to make political capital out of the incident, to attribute to Mr. Winston Churchill any Machiavellian motives in releasing the women. It is not suggested that the party to which Mr. Churchill is attached has gained anything from the order, but it does seem that the intervention of a Home Secretary who is also a notable politician is particularly undesirable, more especially when that intervention is not for the amendment of sentences passed, but with the object of preventing a charge being pursued.

ABERDEEN JOURNAL.

No two opinions exist in political circles as to the meaning of the Home Secretary's instructions to abandon the prosecution against the Suffragettes arrested on Friday. It is clearly a tactical move for the coming election. . . . There are signs that the Home Office will be turned to capital account by the Suffragettes, who regard it as the outcome of fear on the part of the Government. Concentrated attention is to be paid to Mr. Churchill when he goes north to fight his seat at Dundee.

THE SPECTATOR.

We maintain our determination not to advertise the militant Suffragists by describing their riotous and hysterical behaviour. We must note, however, the remarks made by the chief police magistrate, Sir Albert de Rutzen, at Bow Street on Thursday. . . . If, later, Mr. Churchill finds the situation utterly out of hand, it will, at any rate, not have been without due warning from the police and the magistrates.

THE GLOBE.

As to the Suffragettes, as to the rioters of Tonyandy, so to the impeachers of the Osborne judgment the Government have surrendered.

THE PALL MALL GAZETTE.

Mr. Churchill, whose administrative talents are being so brilliantly exhibited just now among Suffragettes and strikers. . . . The Home Secretaryship is not an office in a comic opera, where a man can do as he pleases, and increases his popularity with the folly of his acts. Viewed in the friendliest light, as a display of sentimentality, his decision of Friday last was contemptible. Viewed in what is probably its true aspect, as a piece of electioneering, it was utterly unscrupulous; and—save for the additional burden it has cast upon the already sufficiently occupied policemen of London—we find it impossible to regret it. It has shown that turning government into a farce may also turn it into a tragedy.

OUR POST BOX.

OUR HOLY WAR.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.
Sir,—I am wondering how many W.S.P.U. members—who, like myself, cannot go on deputations—will join me in doubling their subscriptions promised at our recent Albert Hall meeting? By this means the heroic fighting women of our union will know that they have not only helped our great cause politically and spiritually, but also financially. And small monetary sacrifice is but "the dust in the balance" compared with the heroism of personal self-sacrifice.—Yours, etc.,
A. E. WILSON.

November 28.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.
Dear Sir,—As I could not go on the deputation I am sending cheque for £10 as conscience-money, and I would suggest that every woman who wants the vote and cannot do any militant work herself should contribute some sum, big or little, to the war-chest in these days of stress and danger. I am just off to Africa for a few months, and will keep the flag flying.—Yours, etc.,
ETHEL WEDGWOOD.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.
Dear Sir,—I beg to enclose cheque for £10 as an expression of my feeling as to the scandalous way the constitutional deputation that waited on the Prime Minister lately was treated and the severity of the sentences subsequently imposed.—Yours, etc.,
L. S. GILL.

The following are two out of a large number of letters received during the last few days by the Hon. Treasurer of the Union, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence:—

"I enclose a cheque for £15s. towards the funds of the W.S.P.U. in token of my admiration of and gratitude to the brave women who are making this noble fight for all of us. I have had an old coat done up instead of getting a new one this winter, and the cheque represents the difference. I wish I could do more or take a braver part."

"I have read this week's VOTES FOR WOMEN from cover to cover, and my indignation at the manner in which my countrywomen have been treated is too deep for words. Mr. Nevins's scathing words—"But what death is hideous enough for the men who come to these scenes for the deliberate purpose of filthy insult to women struggling for the rights of human beings!"—might well be applied to the Home Secretary. It makes one's blood boil to think of such a cur having Englishwomen in his power! I am a comparatively poor woman, but I feel I must do something to show my admiration for the noble women who are fighting for liberty, and so, instead of buying a new dress which I thought I needed, I am sending the £5 for your War Fund."

Another woman writes:—"Any money given to me as a Christmas present I shall hand over to the Union. I am asking my relatives and friends to give me a donation for the W.S.P.U. instead of a present to myself. A lady this morning has promised me 10s. 6d. towards my Christmas Fund. You will be glad to hear I have secured eight new subscribers to VOTES FOR WOMEN, and I have hopes of a further increase."

Mrs. Pankhurst has received the following:—"I have with me a dear friend, Mrs. Chibnall, who was one of the deputation who went on Friday last to the House of Commons to present a memorial to the Prime Minister. Yesterday my friend went again with the deputation and members of the W.S.P.U. to see the Prime Minister at No. 10, Downing Street to protest against the treatment the women were re-

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

Something a little different from those found elsewhere.

OUR "Christmas Presents" booklet contains a number of suggestions particularly suitable for Yuletide gifts. The articles shown in this feature are quite distinctive in character and of real use—features not generally associated with the average Christmas souvenir. Here are a few examples:—

"Stuart" Armchair in "Crewel" tapestry £2 15 0

Reproduction of Chippendale Bookcase in dark mahogany, 24in. wide £1 10 0

Dark Oak Table, 25in. by 15in. £1 2 6

Jacobean Stool, 18in. by 13in. by 9in. high, stained dark £0 11 6

Rose garland morning Tea set, in pink and green, with green lacquer tray £0 8 6

Booklet, illustrating the above, and 130 other useful presents, sent free by post to all readers of "Votes for Women."

HEAL & SON

Tottenham Court Road, London, W.

ceiving at the hands of the Government. I was in Caxton Hall on Friday and yesterday, before and at the time these deputations left, and I was impressed by the solemnity of the meetings and the dignity and calm manner of these women, that showed consecration to the principle of right and justice that impelled and compelled them to go forward. I saw with amazement and horror the brutal treatment these women received at the hands of police and mob, and read with equal amazement the accounts published in London papers. That these magnificent women can be spoken of as brawlers, and can be subjected to such indignities and brutalities by the order of the Government which they are taxed to support is incredible. How the men of Great Britain can stand aside and allow such outrages is beyond the comprehension of an American. My friend is unable to leave her bed, suffering from injuries received at the hands of the police and mob yesterday, and as a vehement protest against her treatment and the treatment of the hundreds of other superb women I enclose cheque for £20, with assurances of sympathy and reverent admiration for the women who are fighting the fight and keeping the faith.—Very cordially yours,
"ALICE WHITMAN PIERCE."


"Centinella, Denham Road, Highgate, N., November 23, 1910."
[Mrs. Pierce is sending fifty copies of this and next week's VOTES FOR WOMEN to America, in order that people there may have the truth about our movement.—Ed., VOTES FOR WOMEN.]

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.
Dear Sir,—In America such a scene as I today witnessed would be impossible. And to our American sailors from the visiting fleet it was an appalling spectacle. I'm glad they joined their voices with those who cheered the brave women; being Americans, chivalry is

in their blood. Had the women of the great State of New York been half as earnest and persistent as the Englishwomen, the barriers there would long since have fallen. Of this also I am sure—that had any municipality in the length and breadth of the American Continent (for in this general term, for present purposes, I will dare to include Canada) sought to impose upon its police the sort of service which I saw performed by these uniformed men to-day, every mother's son of them would have thrown up his job, preferring to look around for a manly means of earning a living—by laying railway lines or digging ditches.—Yours, etc.,
JENNIE TURNER POWERS.

Friday, November 18, 1910.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.
Dear Sir,—My friend Mr. Nevins's recent account of Tuesday's "Battle of Downing Street" is deficient in a particular which he had no opportunity of observing, as I had. Just as the head of the procession reached Downing Street a column of about one hundred police marched out of Cannon Row Station, and actually fell in and marched behind the rear of the procession till it was brought to a halt at the corner of Downing Street, when they broke their ranks and charged in among the women, attacking them in the rear. Personally, I regret tactics which lead to such scenes of violence; but that, attacked simultaneously in front and rear, the women succeeded in advancing as far as they did is a striking testimony to their extraordinary pluck and pertinacity, which, despite my disapproval, could not but arouse my admiration.—Yours, etc.,
HENRY BASSETT, M.R.C.S., etc.,
136, Gower Street, W.C.,
November 26, 1910.



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HUMAN LIBERTY.

Splendid accounts of the meeting addressed by Mrs. Pethick Lawrence at Margate have appeared in the local papers, from which the following are extracts. "The Women's Social and Political Union and their local organisers have reason to congratulate themselves on the success of their meeting held at Margate Theatre Royal on Friday afternoon. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence was the star speaker, and her address reached a high plane of eloquence." And again: "Another lie was nailed to the mast when the speaker rose to face her audience. For ever was disproved the ridiculous fable of dowdy, shrieking, hysterical creatures, with strained back hair, raucous voices, mannish garb, and clumsy boots. Both eye and ear were delighted by the charming appearance and persuasive, reasoned eloquence of the woman who for close upon an hour held her hearers spellbound as she made them see the need, not only of the vote itself for women, but also of the methods used by her Union in obtaining it."

Mrs. Lawrence began her address by saying: "We have come here to talk about the biggest and noblest thing in all the world, and that is human liberty." "Immediately raising the tone of the debate above the ordinary level by her inspiring introduction in support of the resolution," says the *East Kent Times*, "Mrs. Pethick Lawrence said that human liberty was the subject which had inspired the finest songs written; had been responsible for the finest chapters of history; had made our most magnificent poems; and for it our forefathers in days that had gone by suffered many things, fought on the battlefield, and died on the scaffold to win." This paper headed its report "Human Liberty: Eloquent Speech by Mrs. Pethick Lawrence." A lady contributor to the *Thanet Times* wrote:—"The Theatre Royal has doubtless witnessed many striking performances, but on Friday afternoon a little piece of one of the greatest dramas ever played by members of the human race took place within its walls. Posterity will be able rightly to appreciate the full dignity of the tremendous fight now being waged by one half of humanity for political freedom and equality. There was much that afternoon to encourage those who had taken part in the struggle from the first. There was the changed attitude of the audience, for example; an attitude of appreciative respect instead of the ribald jest and contemptuous sneer so familiar in earlier days. There was also sympathetic applause for the methods which have been so violently decried; methods which have brought the movement into the forefront of practical politics." Mr. E. S. Oak-Rhind was in the chair.

A DEFENCE OF MILITANT METHODS.

An interesting feature of a meeting held by the Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association at Rathgar was the defence made by Lady Betty Balfour of recent militant action, regarding which the meeting passed a resolution deploring the revolutionary and violent methods. Lady Betty Balfour explained how much had been done in a constitutional way in the hope that the Conciliation Bill would be passed. It was not unreasonable for women to ask for time for the further stages of the Bill. The Prime Minister's statement might mean that the Bill would not come on for years, and meantime all sorts of changes might come, such as Home Rule, payment of members, reform of the Poor-law, and in these women would have no voice. That was why the militant party used force in order to get the Government to listen to them, and the so-called force simply meant that, perfectly openly, a number of women came forward, pushed past the police, and were very roughly handled. The violence talked about was violence done to the women rather than by them. As to the argument that such violence showed that women were not fit to use the vote, she would remind her hearers, of the Bristol Riots of 1832, the Franchise Riots in 1867 and 1884, and the Clerkenwell Riots, which led to the Irish Land Bill. Ireland, especially, could remember the deeds done in connection with the great Land League agitation. She did not think that the women who did these things were half so much disgraced as the Government, who would only do justice after such things had been done.

A TERRIBLE STORY.

A correspondent sends us the following:—"I have just heard a terrible story, showing how much the law wants altering. A little girl of fourteen has just become a mother in one of the villages near here, and the wretched man, when he knew of the consequences of his crime, enlisted and is now abroad. The poor little girl was seen out playing a week before her confinement, and it is enough to make one weep to see her now in her short frocks carrying the baby. Her mother has since died."

THE "MORNING LEADER" COMPETITION

Our readers will be glad to know that Mrs. Hartley Withers won the first prize given by the *Morning Leader* for the largest number of signed coupons in the plebiscite recently taken, when 204,393 papers were signed in favour of votes for women, and 165,246 against. She was assisted in the work of collecting signatures by Miss Vibert, the total amounting to 3,283. The prize, consisting of £10 worth of goods from Messrs. Selfridge, will be given to the W.S.P.U.

THE ONLY WAY.

A foreign correspondent (W.S.P.U. member) writes:—"I can only fight in safety from bodily harm, and foolish insults cease to trouble after a time. I am cheered in noting how public opinion is changing, and those who were anti-vote are pro, and those who were anti-militant are beginning to realise that it is the only way. It is among men, English and foreign, that I have noticed this lately."

NEWS FROM THE ORGANISERS.

MANCHESTER AND DISTRICT.

Organisers—Miss Georgina Brackenbury and Miss Rosa Robinson.
Central Office—104, Oxford Road, Manchester.
Tel. 3021 City.

Grateful thanks to Wimbledon members who so generously sent £15 to Miss Mary Gawthorpe for the babies' clothes stall as a tribute of their regard and sympathy in her long illness. Miss Gawthorpe wishes to acknowledge receipt of Postal Order for £2s. received anonymously from Manchester, for the Albert Hall list; also 10s. from Miss A. Hyde.

Manchester members wish to thank most heartily the members of the Actresses' Franchise League who so kindly gave a most interesting performance of "How the Vote was Won," "The Apple," and "An Englishman's Home" on Thursday, November 24.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT.

Organiser—Miss Adela Pankhurst, 43, Marlborough Road, Sheffield. Tel.: Broomhill 415.

A sale will take place in Montgomery Hall on Thursday, December 15, at three o'clock, and amongst the entertainments will be a performance given by Miss Hawson, Miss Minnie Jennings, and others.

WIMBLEDON.

Hon. Organising Sec.: Mrs. Lamartine Yates, Dorset Hill, Marton, Surrey.
Shop: 6, Victoria Crescent, Broadway, Wimbledon.
Tel. 1024, P.O. Wimbledon.

A public supper in honour of the local representatives on the deputation who were arrested will be given at Follitt's Rooms, 45, Broadway, on Wednesday, December 7, at 7.30. It is hoped every member will attend, and bring friends.

The members of the Stockport branch of the Church Socialist League wish to thank the members of the W.S.P.U. who so kindly helped them with the sale of tickets for their meeting on November 21.

"A POINT OVERLOOKED."

"The question of Woman Suffrage has been brought into the realm of practical politics by the Prime Minister's statement that, if the Government is returned to power, facilities will be given in the next Parliament to effectively proceed with a Bill on the subject. Thus, if the Liberals go back with a majority, the new Parliament will be entitled to make a stupendous change which will fundamentally alter the basis of the electorate. In brief, Woman Suffrage on a democratic basis is a very real issue at this election."

—*Evening Times*.

WOMEN'S TAX RESISTANCE LEAGUE.

Central Office: 10, Talbot House, St. Martin's Lane, W.C. (Third Floor left.) Hours 10 to 5, or by appointment with The Secretary, Mrs. Kinston Parkes.

At the request of many friends who are anxious to help on this most logical protest, associates to the League have been adopted and will be heartily welcomed. To be an associate it is necessary to do all that one possibly can to create registers among women friends who are tax-payers, and to subscribe to the funds.

IRISH WOMEN'S FRANCHISE LEAGUE.

Great Impetus Through Militant Action

The meeting on Tuesday, November 22, was of unusual interest, as a telegram was handed in stating that four members of the militant contingent sent by the League to join the W.S.P.U. deputation had been arrested. The news was received with great enthusiasm. Mr. J. J. McDonald, solicitor, well known as a suffragist, delivered an address on the many hardships which the law inflicts on women, with cogent examples. Mrs. Sheehy Skeffington gave a brief history of the recent demonstration at Westminster, and the part played by the Irish Section. She thanked those Irish M.P.'s who so pluckily came to the help of the women in the House of Commons.

Mr. Kettle, in reply, related his experiences as an eye-witness of the deputation, and congratulated the women on their victory. He thought they had come to a turning-point in the history of the movement. This was the first time a Government division had been taken on Woman Suffrage. He fully corroborated the statements made by other speakers as to the police brutalities inflicted on the women.

On Wednesday, November 23, a large and representative meeting was held by Limerick Suffragists in the Altheum. The Countess of Limerick presided. Lady Betty Balfour dealt at length with the history of the constitutional suffrage movement in England. Mrs. Kettle (representing the I.W.F.L.) dealt with the recent militant developments, and made a brilliant defence of unconstitutional methods. Miss Duggan (I.W.F.L.) and the Mayor of Limerick also spoke.

The Irish Prisoners.

The friends of the Irish suffragettes, who are undergoing terms of imprisonment, will be glad to learn that, in reply to a telegram from Mr. T. M. Kettle, M.P., Mr. Churchill has telegraphed that they will enjoy the benefits of the new rule of last May, i.e., be substantially treated as prisoners in the first division. In all, seven members of the Irish contingent sent by the I.W.F.L. have been arrested, and six have been imprisoned. On Tuesday Mrs. Barr, Miss Webb (Committee member I.W.F.L.), Miss Stephenson and Miss Houston were arrested, but were subsequently discharged together with many of their colleagues, no evidence being tendered against them. On Thursday Mrs. Cousins, Mrs. Mac (Treasurer I.W.F.L.), Miss Allen, and Mrs. Garvey Kelly were brought up at Bow Street charged with breaking Cabinet Ministers' windows, and sentenced to one month each. On Friday Miss Webb, Miss Stephenson and Miss Houston, arrested a second time, were charged with a similar offence, and sentenced to two months each. The I.W.F.L. has been stimulated to fresh activity and enthusiasm by the devotion and self-sacrifice of its brave delegates in the fighting line. Votes for Women is being sold in the streets of Dublin, at theatre gatherings, and at big political gatherings, and the work of propaganda in connection with the General Election is being pushed on vigorously.

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" Velvet Brush .. 12/9
Silver-mounted Comb .. 7/6
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" Velvet Brush .. 14/3
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Other Qualities.
10/6, 15/6, 16/6 for Pint size.
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Six Silver and Enamelled
Buttons and Fasteners and
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MEN'S POLITICAL UNION FOR WOMEN'S ENFRANCHISEMENT.

Offices: 13, Buckingham Street, Strand, W.C.
Telephone: City 3104.
Hon. Organising Sec., Victor D. Duval.

Accounts will be found on another page of the protests made by members of this Union at Highbury (Mr. Churchill), Hull (the Prime Minister), Bradford (Mr. Churchill), and Wandsworth (Mr. Burns). As a result of the brutal violence shown to Mr. Hawkins by the Bradford "Young Liberals," several indignant male sympathisers have joined this Union. A Bradford branch was definitely formed on Sunday, and men sympathisers in this district are requested to communicate with the local hon. sec., Mr. H. Lord, Greenhill Dairy, Carlisle Road, Bradford. The committee urgently appeals for more men to come forward and volunteer for our fighting line. Now is the time for deeds not words, and every member should be prepared to make some sacrifice and do something worthy of his suffrage sisters. The following donations are gratefully acknowledged (already acknowledged, £237 10s. 9d.):—Per Victor D. Duval—"An Admirer of True Chivalry," £100; Miss Joan Cather, £5; Miss K. Lilley, £5; Miss Louise Lilley, £5; Quentin Douglas (a fine), £1 11s. 1d.; Miss T. Wollerson, £1 1s.; Mrs. Annie Evans, £1 1s.; Mrs. Cunningham, 2s. 6d.; Henry Morris, 1s. 6d.; J. S. Burgess, 1s. 6d.; W. A. Bond, 1s. 6d.; Arthur E. W. Marshall, £1 1s.; Membership fees, 10s. Total, £368 1s. 10d.

Birmingham Branch.—The Union is now busy helping the W.S.P.U. in the election work at Dudley and Stafford. Any extra help will be welcomed at Dudley, as we have a large district to cover. Please come to the W.S.P.U. Committee Room, 4, Union Street, Dudley.

THE ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE.

An interesting debate, under the auspices of the above league, was held in the new Reform Club on Friday last, Miss Winifred Mayo in the chair. The proposition was "That the policy of opposing the Government is the only effectual one for Suffragists." Miss Adeline Bourne supported; Miss Sydney opposed, and an interesting discussion followed. The resolution was carried by a very large majority.

A meeting will be held in the Grand Hall of the Criterion Restaurant to-day (Friday), at 3 p.m., Miss May Whitty in the chair. Speakers: Lady Grove, Mrs. Louis Fagan, Mrs. Madeleine Lucette Ryley, Mrs. Arcliffe Bennett, Mrs. Kinston Parkes, and Lord Robert Cecil, K.C. Hostess: Miss Evelyn D'Alroy. Doors open at 2.30 p.m. Early attendance is advised. Admission free.

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THE CHALET, SPELDURST, KENT.

CHURCH LEAGUE FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

President—The Bishop of Lincoln.
Offices—11, St. Mark's Crescent, Regent's Park, N.W.
During the past fortnight, Branch Meetings have taken place at Lewisham, Brighton, Kenilworth, Leamington and Willaston Green, and a new Branch has been formed at Oxford. During the General Election, Services will be held daily at times convenient for members engaged in election work; times and places will be announced shortly. On Thursday, Dec. 8, at 6.30 p.m., there will be a special service at the Royal Chapel of the Savoy, W.C., Presider, Rev. Hugh B. Chapman, Chaplain, and it is hoped that as many members as possible will make a point of being present. The League is in great need of funds for the extension of its work, and a simple way in which members can contribute to this object is by the purchase of literature, Christmas Cards, etc., at the Offices, and by making a compact with their friends that, instead of the interchange of presents at Christmas time, the money should be devoted to the League.

THE NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

President: Mrs. Cecil Chapman. Office: 8, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge. Hon. Secs., Miss Jean Forsyth, Miss Gladys Wright, B.A. Tel. 2289 Kensington.

On Friday, November 18, a highly successful meeting was held at Mrs. Hilton Dale's, 60, Onslow Gardens, at which Earl Russell and Miss Eva Gore-Booth spoke. Committee Rooms for the General Election have been opened in Battersea, 44, Falcon Road; organiser in charge, Miss K. Raleigh; Hoxton, 25, East Road, City Road; organiser, Miss Campbell-Patterson; Kennington, 300, Kennington Road; organiser, Miss Billing. Members are urged to come and help to keep out the Government candidate. Miss Mrs. Moore has kindly promised to open the Christmas Sale on December 6, at 3 p.m., at the Knightsbridge offices, and we implore Suffragists to help us with our Election Fund by buying their Christmas presents from us.

IRISH WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY, BELFAST.

Miss Ogston's visit was quite a success. On Tuesday she addressed the women Students at the University, and ten of them joined our Society. The debate on Wednesday was particularly successful, and Mr. Anderson, barrister-at-law, had very few supporters. The At Home in Ye Olde Castle on Saturday afternoon was most enjoyable, and everyone is looking forward to another visit from Miss Ogston.

Great preparations were made for Lady Betty Balfour's visit on Wednesday, Nov. 30. A paragraph on her speech appears on page 153.

Ladies replenishing their wardrobes are reminded that garments made of Viyella are ideal for this time of the year. Viyella is a material of world-wide reputation, and justly so, for its softness, lightness, beautiful colouring and lasting qualities are exceptional. For ladies' wear, for gentlemen, and for children's garments of all kinds Viyella is particularly suitable. "Viyella" is marked on the selvage of the cloth, and when buying the material the word should always be looked for.

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